

The Avalanche

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN,

O. PALMER,
Editor and Proprietor.

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For Six Months .60
For Three Months .30

"CUBA TO BE FREE."

This Is Asserted by Prominent
Men in Washington.

PLAN IS NOT DISCLOSED.

McKinley Said to Favor a Peace Policy
If That Be Possible.

NATION ON A WAR FOOTING

Condition of Defenses on Land and
Sea All in Ship Shape.

Uncle Sam Makes a Record in Putting
On His Fighting Clothes - Many Ships
in Commission - Big Orders Given for
Ammunition - Fortifications Equip-
ped and Manned - Military Posts Es-
tablished and Regular Troops Moved
Eastward - Spanish Sovereignty in
Cuba Seems Doomed.

Washington correspondence:
Cuba is to be free. President McKinley
desires that its freedom be gained without
war, if that is possible, but Cuba is to
be free. This declaration is made by men
so close to the administration that there
is no doubt of its authenticity. Special
recognition of Cuban independence is
simpler and more direct, and means more



POLIO T. BERNABE,
New Spanish Minister to the United States.

than either recognition of belligerency or
intervention. It would not be regarded as
a declaration of war by other nations,
and there is no cause for Spain to so-
berly guard it. If she did insist upon regarding
it as a hostile act, upon Spain would be
the responsibility for beginning war.

The United States will demand ample
reparation for the wrong inflicted upon us
by the destruction of the Maine. It will
later on demand a satisfactory solution of
the Cuban problem. With the Maine dis-
aster cleared up, it is said in adminis-
tration circles that the President prefers in-
dependence to any other form of settle-
ment of the Cuban question. One mem-
ber of the cabinet is convinced that this
is the best form of recognition. Senator
Proctor favors it, and so do several other
close advisers of the President.

It is positively stated that the Govern-
ment is determined to press on toward the
salvation of Cuba, and that we are build-
ing for peace when we prepare for war,
for there is only one way in which the
Spanish can be driven, and that is by
showing them you have the power to mas-
ter them. Though the United States has
purchased two Brazilian cruisers, and
though large contracts let for projectiles
and shells for both the army and the navy
would appear to indicate the imminence
of war, as a matter of fact the war cloud
is thought not as black or threatening as
it was a week or two ago. There seems
a most hopeful feeling among those offi-
cials who are nearest to the center of in-
side news. It would not be correct to say



U. S. AGENTS DISTRIBUTE FOOD TO STARVING RECONCENTRADOS.

that danger of war has passed, but the
chance of a peaceful settlement of our
troubles with Spain is considered possible.

Preparations for War.
Active and aggressive preparations for
war make for peace. This is the anom-
alous situation which a look underneath
the surface discloses. The history of the
week forms a splendid record of what can
be accomplished by the nation in a short
space of time under the spur of necessity
to provide for the national defense. Re-
gulating with the appropriation of \$50,000,
000 to be expended by the President with-
out limitation, there followed rapidly the

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O. PALMER.

JUSTICE AND RIGHT.

Publisher and Proprietor.

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NUMBER 51.

SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENT.



—Chicago Chronicle.

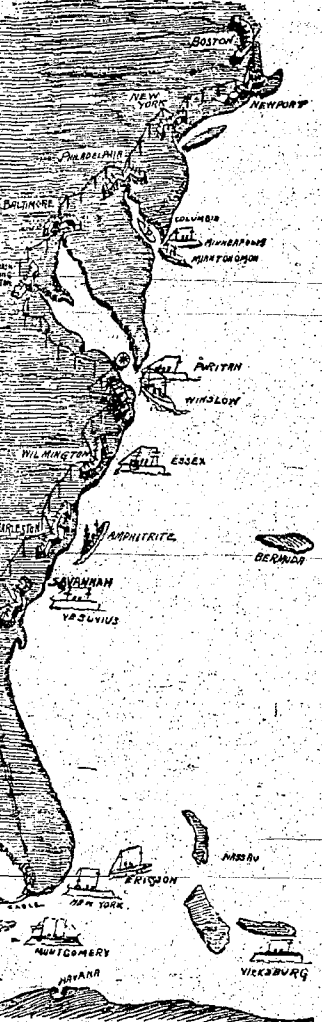
placing of orders for enormous quantities
of war supplies, the institution of negotia-
tions for the actual purchase of ships
abroad, the enlistment of men for the
navy, the creation of two additional regiments
of artillery, the commissioning of
monitors, cruisers and rams, the manning
of new posts along the seacoasts and finally
the rearrangement of the great military
departments to meet modern conditions in
military practice.

The sending of the Oregon away from
San Francisco is an exhibition of foresight
and wisdom with which the Secretary of
the Navy is observing the situation. The ves-
sel's orders are to cruise down the Pacific
coast, touching in from time to time at
various ports where cable connections ex-
ist, to receive any orders that the depart-
ment may have to give. In this way it is
expected that the Oregon will be as far
south as Valparaiso, Chile, where she will
await orders. Valparaiso is very much nearer
Cuba and to Admiral Sigsbee's fleet than
Mare Island, while if it should be desired
to send the ship to the Asiatic station, this
can be done almost as conveniently from
Valparaiso as from San Francisco. At
Valparaiso therefore the Oregon will be
where she can be most usefully manipu-
lated in case of an emergency.

The Board of Naval Bureau Chiefs find
it impossible to pass judgment in Wash-
ington upon the fitness for naval service
of vessels that may be offered for the aux-
iliary branch of the navy at the various
seaports, so they have been aided in their
work by the creation of a special board
which will undertake to visit each of the
ports where ships may be offered and
make a careful personal inspection of the
various craft.

The War Department on Monday open-
ed bids for one of the largest orders of

EASTERN COAST DEFENSES.



shot and shell for heavy caliber guns ever
given, including armor-piercing projectiles
and deck-piercing and torpedo shells.
The number and character of these are
as follows: Nine hundred and thirty-five
twelve-inch deck-piercing shells weighing
1,000 pounds each; 1,241 twelve-inch
deck-piercing shells weighing 800 pounds
each; 481 ten-inch armor-piercing shells;
482 ten-inch armor-piercing shot; 140
eight-inch armor-piercing shell; 150

of such fortification guns as may be
mounted for emergency. The present or-
der is for the actual needs of the guns now
mounted, without reference to any exist-
ing emergency, although it has been made
all the more imperative by the Spanish
crisis.

Regular Army Moved East.

The whole regular army, infantry, arti-
llery and horse, comprising upwards of
200,000 men, is being moved over to the
fortified cities and ports. At Chicago Quar-
termaster General Lee of the department
of the lakes, is making arrangements to
transport batteries of artillery now at
forts in the West to the Atlantic seaboard
and Gulf of Mexico. The Western
railroads having headquarters in Chicago,
St. Louis and other Western cities
were invited to telegraph proposals for
transporting a battery of artillery from
Fort Riley, Kan., to Fort Monroe, Va.;
another from Fort Riley, Kan., to New
Orleans, and a third from Fort Riley to
Savannah, Ga.

BUYS WAR SHIPS.

Uncle Sam Secures Two Formidable Brazilian Cruisers.

A week's negotiations closed by the pur-
chase by the Navy Department in London
of the two fine cruisers built and building
at Elswick for the Brazilian Government.
The vessels are named the Amazonas and
Admiral Albréu and are modern in every
respect.

Possibly the officials took more pleasure
in closing up the business because of the
knowledge that the Spanish agents had
been striving to secure these very ships.
It is said the vessels would be of much
greater value to the Madrid Government
in case of trouble than to the United
States.

One of the ships is complete in every re-
spect, has her coal supply and ammunition
on board, and steam can be raised at any
time. It is said the coal and ammunition
on board passed with the sale to the United
States. The ammunition is not all of the
kind in use by the United States
navy, so the supply of ammunition is a
necessary adjunct to the new ships. The
other ship has been launched, but it will
take some time to make her ready for sea.
The two Brazilian vessels will be ex-
tremely useful additions to the United
States navy in other war or peace.

PREPARING FOR WAR.

GOVERNMENT RUSHING WORK IN MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.

Day and Night the Making of Guns,
Shot and Shell Goes On—How the
Messengers of Destruction and Death
Are Prepared for Use.

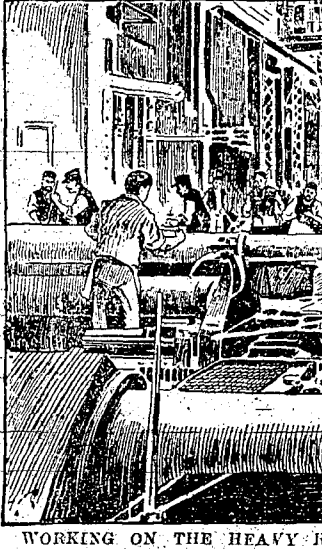
Engines of War.
Hurry up! Hurry up! This has been
the watchword in all departments of mil-
itary work during the past few weeks. It
is particularly so at Reading, Pa., and
Newark, N. J. In the former place the
Carpenter Steel Company has an order from
the Government for 27,000 projectiles,
and at the latter place the Benjamin
Atha and Illingworth Company have an
order for all the heavy guns they can
make. Both these orders are to be
filled out in a hurry, and the work is
done in the very best that can be made
under the circumstances. We have a lot of
beautiful vessels, but it is learned from
trustworthy sources that of all our
first-class floating engines of war, only
one—the Massachusetts—is supplied with
projectiles sufficient to last over a day in
action. It is only since 1890 that pro-
jectiles have been manufactured in this
country. In that year the Carpenter
Steel Company undertook the work at the
solicitation of the Navy Department. The
tests of the work for the past seven years
have shown that the projectiles of Ameri-
can manufacture are not only up to but
even surpass in quality and effectiveness
the very best that can be made abroad.

Day and night the work of getting ready
the munitions of war is going on in these
two places. The grinding wheels and
boiling cauldrons of metal are continually
doing their work. There is no time to
lose. The projectiles must be ready and



REPRESENTATIVE CANNON.
Who introduced a bill appropriating \$50,000,
000 for national defense.

the guns to fire them must be complete if
we have any business with Spain.
There are several kinds of projectiles

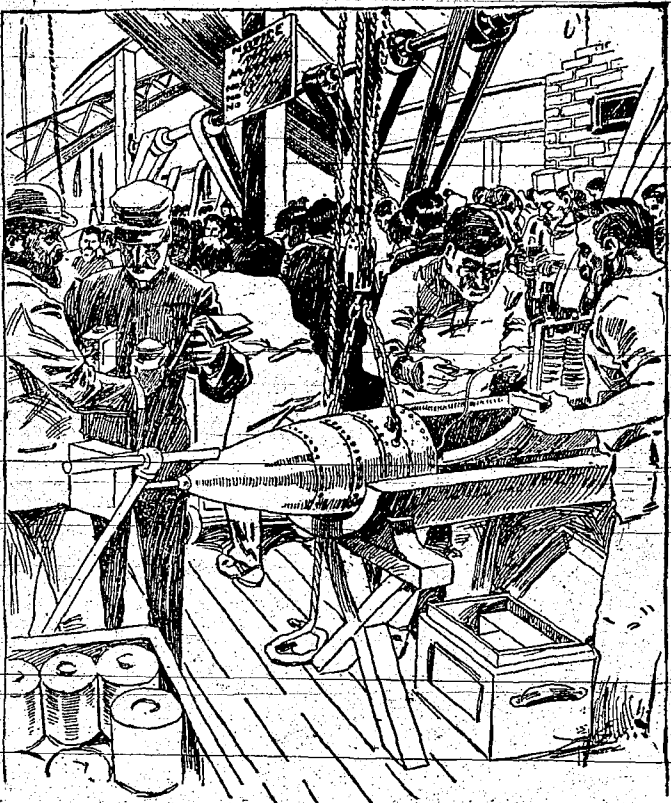
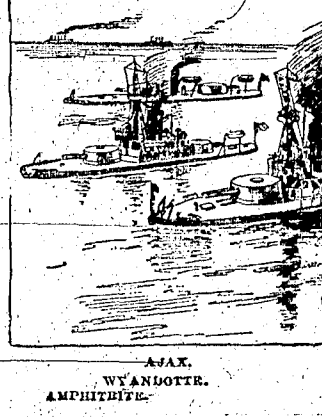


WORKING ON THE HEAVY RIFLES IN THE NAVAL ORDNANCE FOUNDRY IN WASHINGTON.

known respectively as armor-piercing pro-
jectiles, semi-armored projectiles, or de-
ck-piercing projectiles, mortar shells and
common, or target, shells. The armor-
piercers are of the highest grade of pro-
jectiles and are intended to perforate the
heaviest armor that can be placed on a
battleship. With adequate velocity given
by the powder charge in the gun, a pro-
jectile of this class is designed to pene-
trate a face-hardened nickel steel plate
which is equal in thickness to the diam-
eter of the shot. The tremendous strain
brought upon the projectile at the mo-
ment of impact with the plate calls for
steel of the very highest strength and
toughness.

To begin with, these missiles are made
of pig iron. This is selected with special
reference to its strength and purity. It is
melted and converted by the process
known as puddling into very pure and
strong muck, which consists of almost
chemically pure metallic iron. Every
known process is observed to eliminate
impurities from the metal in the
puddling process. When the contents of
the crucibles that contain the molten
metal is thoroughly melted it is poured or
"teemed" into a ladle, from which the
steel is tapped into iron molds and form
ingots of the proper shape and size for
the further work. For a projectile of the
largest size, which measures when finish-
ed 13 inches in diameter and 48 inches in
length, the ingot weighs one ton.

FLEET OF MONITORS FOR COAST AND HARBOR DEFENSE.



MAKING PROJECTILES FOR THE BIG GUNS.

When the steel has solidified the mold
is stripped from the ingot. It then goes
to the forge and under a steam hammer
which weighs almost ten tons it assumes
approximately the required shape.
After being gradually cooled the forg-
ings are taken to the machine shop, where
they are turned and bored to their final
dimensions. An idea of the accuracy of
this work may be formed from the fact
that for most of the dimensions the great-
est variation allowed is one-hundredth of
an inch, while for certain parts, such as
the diameter of the fuse hole, absolute
accuracy is required, and the variation
of even one-thousandth of an inch is not
allowed. The purpose of the boring is to
produce a chamber or cavity within the
projectile which is intended to contain a
high explosive. The base of this cavity
is closed with a plug which screws into
the projectile, and which contains a small
aperture through which a detonating fuse
can be introduced to fire the explosive.

The most delicate operation in the whole
process is the hardening of the projectiles.
This is done by heating and cooling re-
peatedly. The work of all the other de-
partments may be spoiled here. If the

acquired with all the intricacies of the
business, seems to be largely a matter of
knowing how to properly manipulate the
machinery employed in the process. Ex-
cept in the forging room scarcely a blow
of a hammer is heard. The shops are al-
most as silent as the grave. Wheels re-
volve, cutters turn, mill stand placidly
by the side of machines moving softly
here and there. All this time, each sec-
ond, the gun that some day will belch
forth fire and steel of its own is coming
nearer completion. Chips fall as the bars
revolve, but the cutters are not heard.
The guns, it would appear to the onlook-
ers, are almost making themselves.

NEARLY 1,000 SHIPS ARE READY.

Available for War Purposes If Manned by Quick-Fire Guns.

The naval militia organizations, in ac-
cordance with the instructions issued by
the department last week, are beginning
to report on the number of merchant ships
and steam craft of all kinds available for
war purposes if manned with quick-fire
guns. Pennsylvania and Maryland and
some of the New England States report

a large number of vessels in readiness for
impressment by the national Government
on receipt of orders from the President.
Big tugs and little yachts are now being
considered with a view to forming a tor-
pedo boat flotilla, each being manned with
a torpedo tube and two or three six-pound-
ers. It is proposed to utilize a large num-
ber of heavy towing ocean-going tugs as
improved rams, and assign them exclu-
sively for harbor defense purposes.

The information so far received by the
department shows that 920 vessels of all
types available for impressment are at
the service of the Government, including a
large number on the lakes, which would
not under any circumstances be used un-
less it was developed that the Eastern
States failed to present the requisite num-
ber. Of these forty-three are on the list
of auxiliary cruisers, or ships which are
engaged in coastwise and foreign trade,
and capable of high speed and great
steaming radius. These would be man-
ned with guns manufactured at the Wash-
ington gun factory and sent to join the
flying squadrons or to harass the ene-
mies' commerce.

SEVEN MINES IN THE HARBOR.

Maine Court of Inquiry Will Present Some Material Evidence.

A Key West correspondent asserts that
the court of inquiry will present with its
findings the material evidence of the ex-
istence of not one mine, but of seven, in
the harbor of Havana. A shattered sec-
tion of a submarine cable, containing
seven conductors, is in the possession of
the court, delivered to it by one of the
American divers, and it is the strongest
proof yet offered that the Maine's destruc-
tion was encompassed by an agency with-
in the control of the Spanish authorities.
It is about fourteen inches long, seven-
eighths of an inch in diameter, and con-
tained seven copper wires insulated with
a gutta percha covering. The outside was
of lead, one thirty-second of an inch thick.
The discovery was made about thirty
feet from the submerged bow, and within
the radius of fifty feet in which the divers
have been working. To those of the court
and visitors, is the possession of the
character of this section of lead-covered
cable was at once apparent. It was such
as would be used only in deep seas, or for
some work in shallow waters when abso-
lute protection against breaking or in-
duction would be assured. An ordinary
okanite or gutta percha covered wire
could be all that would be necessary for
telegraph or telephone service.

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Clerk	James W. Hartwick
Recorder	John L. Loomis
Treasurer	John Hammett
Prosecuting Attorney	J. Patterson
Judge of Probate	J. C. Conroy
C. C. Com.	C. C. Conroy
Surveyor	Wm. H. H. W. H.
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South Branch	F. F. Richardson
Beaver Creek	John Hammett
Maple Forest	John L. Loomis
Grayling	Wm. S. Chalkley
Frederick	J. Patterson
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Center Plain	A. Emery

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

M. E. CHURCH—Rev. R. L. Copp, Pastor. Services at 10:30 o'clock a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday school at 12 m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. All are oc- casionally invited to attend.	PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—Sunday school at 10 o'clock. Y. P. S. C. E. at 6 p.m. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.	DANISH EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH—Rev. A. P. W. Becker, Pastor. Services every Sun- day at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday school at 12 m. Prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock. All are oc- casionally invited to attend.	METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH— Rev. J. J. Willis, Pastor. Services every Sun- day at 10:30 a.m. Sunday school at 12 m.	ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH—Father E. Mahler. Regular services the 2nd Sunday in each month.	GRAYLING LODGE, No. 385, F. & A. M. meets in regular communication on Thursday evening on or before the full of the moon. FRED NARRIN, W. M.	A. TAYLOR, Secy.	MARVIN POST, No. 540, G. A. R., meets the second and fourth Saturdays in each month. W. S. CHALKLEY, Post Com.	J. C. HANSON, Adjutant.	WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS, No. 162, meets on the 2d and 4th Saturdays at 2 o'clock in the af- ternoon. Mrs. A. L. FORD, President.	REBECCA WIGHT, Sec.	GRAYLING CHAPTER, R. A. M., No. 121— Meets every third Tuesday in each month. J. K. MEYER, H. P.	GRAYLING LODGE, I. O. O. F., No. 121— Meets every Tuesday evening.	A. TAYLOR, Secy.	C. O. MULLOCH, Secy.	CRAWFORD TENT, K. O. T. M., No. 102— Meets every Saturday evening.	J. J. COLLINS, Com.	T. NOLAN, R. E.	GRAYLING CHAPTER, ORDER OF EAST- ERN STAR, No. 83, meets Monday evening on or before the full of the moon. Mrs. R. P. FORD, W. M.	COURT GRAYLING, I. O. F., No. 720—Meets second and last Wednesday of each month. J. WOODRUP, G. R.	B. WISNER, R. S.	GRAYLING HIVE, No. 54, L. O. T. M.—Meets every first and third Wednesday of each month. Mrs. G. W. LUTZ, Lady Com.	Mrs. F. W. WALDE, Record Keeper.	REGULAR CONVOCAION OF PORTAGE LODGE, No. 141, K. of P., meets in Castle Hall the first and third Wednesday of each month. JULIUS K. MEYER, K. of P.	ADROSE MCCLAIN, C. C.	GRAYLING COUNCIL, No. B. & S. M., will hold their regular convocation on Friday, on or before the full of the moon. JULIUS K. MEYER, T. J. M.	F. L. MICHELSON, Sec.
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BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

S. N. INSLEY, M. D.,
Physician and Surgeon,
Office over Fournier's Drug Store.
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The Grayling House is conveniently situated,
being near the depot and business houses. It
is newly built, furnished in first-class style, and
heated by steam throughout. Every room
will be paid to the comfort of guests. Fine sam-
ple-rooms for company of travelers.

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(Successor to F. A. Brigham.)
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Shaving and Hair-Cutting done in the latest
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Prompt attention given all customers.
Oct. 1, '91.

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we are always prepared to
do all kinds of first-class

**Job
Printing**
on short notice and at the
most reasonable prices.

A Trial Order

The Avalanche

O. PALMER, PUBLISHER.

GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

EXPANSION IS SHOWN.

MERCHANDISE EXPORTS SHOW AN EXCESS.

Summers of Peace or War Have Not Yet Disturbed the Onward Current of Business—Location of a Murdered Man's Buried Treasure.

Dun's Review of Trade.
R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: "Notwithstanding the general business. Orders for more than \$25,000,000 from Europe have blocked any drift toward stringency in rates for money and treasury receipts of about \$1,100,000 a day have kept in check any question about the currency, while exports of products have continued at a rate considerably increased, and the demand for products of the great industries shows steady expansion. Prompt action by the Senate and House has removed all fear of embarrassment through conflicting purposes at Washington. The Government is making ready without any waste of time, while frankly assuring everybody that it looks for a peaceful settlement and hopes that its preparations may prove unnecessary. The backbone of the situation is the excess of merchandise exports, more than \$41,000,000 in February, with an increase of \$2,200,000 in miscellaneous products, \$2,100,000 in provisions, \$4,500,000 in cotton and \$7,000,000 in breadstuffs compared with last year, and \$15,100,000 in all products. In two weeks of March exports have been 16 per cent larger than last year, and imports have gained but 6.7 per cent. The outgo of cotton surpasses all expectations. Wool shows no change in quotations, though Eastern markets are extremely dull, and the indifference of manufacturers has made transactions only \$2,000,000 pounds, against 10,500,000 for the corresponding week last year. Little encouragement appears in the market for cotton goods. Bessemer pig and gray forge are both slightly stronger at Pittsburgh, the proposed combination of valley furnaces helping, but pig is not changed in price elsewhere, nor are finished products at any point excepting wire nails. Failures for the week have been 303 in the United States, against 216 last year, and 27 in Canada, against 50 last year."

ROBBERS' RICH HAUL.

State Bank of Nickerson, Kan., Looted for \$75,000.

The State bank of Nickerson, Kan., was blown open and robbed the other night. Three of the men, with masks on their faces, entered the building, a fourth was stationed at the entrance to act as guard. After digging into the vault dynamite was placed in the wall and the wall was blown to pieces. The explosion under the outer wall did not make much noise, but when the burglars undertook to get open the door of the safe they met with a greater resistance and several charges were made to break the door. The noise of the explosion aroused some persons who were near the bank. They instituted a search as to the cause of the trouble and were met by the outside guard, who compelled them to go and sit down on the sidewalk. The fellows on the inside did a bad job of blowing up the safe door, as they blew most of the paper money to pieces. L. C. Brown, president of the bank, says that over \$75,000 was taken, including the amount that was blown to pieces, which cannot be estimated.

LOCATES THE TREASURE.

Money of a Murdered Man Buried in an Old Orchard.

John Q. Yazle of Lima, O., writes to Mayor McMurray of Denver, Colo., requesting him to locate Mrs. William Thompson. Yazle says he has located the treasure in which the \$50,000 was buried by Oscar Asherman after he murdered William Thompson in California in 1889. He says the confession of Asherman as told by his father after returning from his son's deathbed in Arizona, agrees in detail with the story told to Yazle by the man who helped Asherman bury Thompson's gold in an orchard. Yazle seeks Mrs. Thompson in the hope of receiving a reward for locating the money. The police in Denver have been searching for her since Asherman's confession was first published.

Williamian Joins the Trust.

J. E. Lawton of Manchester, England, vice-chairman of the English sewing cotton corporation, and John R. Dos Passos, the New York counsel of the American Thread Company, have completed the final arrangements for the transfer of the Williamian Thread Company's plant at Hartford, Conn., to the trust. Lawton furnished \$3,000,000 and Dos Passos \$2,400,000, \$5,400,000 being the sum required to complete the deal.

Spain's Proposal Rejected.

Spain has proposed that the United States join in effecting a settlement of the Cuban question upon the basis of complete autonomy of the Canadian pattern, under Spanish sovereignty, and the proposal has been rejected. Both nations are now facing each other in a contest of nerve. It is believed that the President's firm stand will cause Spain to yield to the inevitable without recourse to war.

Experience Lack of Funds.

It was announced that work on the new East river bridge at New York had been stopped for lack of funds.

Votes the Gold Contract Bill.

The Governor of Kentucky has vetoed the bill making invalid contracts payable in gold.

New Baptist University.

The home mission board, representing the Baptists of the North, have just voted to begin at once the erection of the buildings of the new Virginia Union university, to be located on a beautiful campus of about forty acres in the suburbs of Richmond, Va., and to cost about \$100,000.

Mine Explosion Kills Six.

An explosion occurred in slope 2 of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Alloy Company mine at Pratt City, Ala. Six negro convicts were killed.

Package of Money Stolen.

A package containing \$16,000 in currency and checks consigned by County Treasurer Allen of Emmison County, N. D., to the First National Bank of Bismarck, was stolen between Williamsport and Laramie, two small stations on the star route from Bismarck to Bismarck.

Inheritance Tax Law Fails.

The Missouri inheritance tax law, enacted in an opinion by Justice Gault, is held to be unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. The opinion was concurred in by all the judges.

EPIDEMIC OF SUICIDES.

Five Cases Reported at St. Louis in Last Week.

There was an epidemic of suicide in St. Louis the other day. Alfred Keene, a laborer, took poison because he was out of work. He died within an hour. Frank Petteike, a carpenter, took Paris green because of despondency. He was found dead in his room. John Herman, a twenty-two year old engineer and band leader at the Home of the Friendless in Benton Park, shot himself through the temple. He was alive when found, but died soon after being removed to the hospital. He had been a sufferer from rheumatism. Bertha Siepe, aged 19 years, employee at the Progressive Paper Box Company, jumped from the third-story window of that establishment just as the whistle blew for the noon hour. She was picked up unconscious. She had been despondent for several days. Charles Argast shot himself through the temple because he could not find work.

WANT QUARANTINE LIFTED.

California Stockmen Fear Their Cattle Will Starve.

Over one hundred thousand head of cattle will starve to death in California this year unless the Government can be persuaded to speedily modify the quarantine lines against the apertic or southern fever. Nevada stockmen are desirous of purchasing in California and California stockmen are anxious to sell and their horses and stock to Nevada, but nothing can be done owing to the quarantine regulations against a disease which does not exist in California, which prevents the transportation of the animals to the north or to the neighboring States on the coast. The Government has both taken the matter up and a representative of the cattlemen has been sent to Washington to endeavor to have the quarantine lines moved further south.

AN ODD OCCURRENCE.

Albert Hoff Alleged to Have Authorized a Written Confession.

The San Francisco Examiner says that a remarkable incident has developed in the case of Albert Hoff, the aged Russian who now is on trial for the murder of Mrs. Mary Chan. Two attorneys of that city are trying to sell an alleged confession of the man who is on trial for his life. The lawyers insist that they are acting as agents for Hoff. They declare that the prisoner will take nothing less than \$2,000 for his self-incrimination. The confession is a written statement made to McIntosh, who is now detaining Hoff in court. It is characterized as an unqualified, unqualified confession of not more than 300 words of the murder of Mrs. Chan. Albert Hoff denies with all the vehemence he can command that he has ever made a confession or ever intends to do so.

PRAIRIE FIRE IN KANSAS.

Cimarron Saved from Destruction by Hard Work.

With the wind blowing at a velocity of about forty miles an hour, a prairie fire raged within sight of Cimarron, Kan., sweeping everything before it. Thousands of acres of pasture land were burned off, and the loss of life and property was incalculable. At one time the wind changed suddenly, driving the flames toward town, and it took hard work on the part of a large force of men with teams and water wagons to prevent the town's destruction.

Thousand People Saw the Dead.

At Washington, D. C., Dennis J. Canty, a broker, formerly of East St. Louis, Ill., shot and killed George Rye, a well-known sportsman and man about town. The shooting took place in front of the Western Union building, in the presence of perhaps a thousand men, women and children. Canty drew a revolver and deliberately fired into Rye four times. The latter reeled and fell to the street. He was carried to a hospital and died five minutes later. Canty coolly replaced his revolver in his pocket and waited for an officer to come and take him. The day before the two men had had a quarrel at the same spot and it is said Rye threatened Canty with a drawn knife. Dennis J. Canty has been indicted for the murder. He was appointed to a clerkship in the Interstate commerce commission under Col. W. R. Morrison. He went into brokerage business with H. W. Van Sledright, who was formerly private secretary to Senator Charles F. Smith. The firm failed and the members were indicted a week or so ago the indictments were noted. It is learned now that the shooting is the culmination of the failure of Canty's firm, Rye, who is said to have been a horseman and speculator, lost by the failure and threatened revenge.

Freight Over Chilkoot Pass.

The Dyce-Klondike Transportation Company of Portland, Ore., received advice from Dyce that its upper tramway from Seales to the summit had been completed. The company's trucks are now being taken over the Chilkoot Pass. The price of transporting goods from Dyce to the summit is now about 7 cents per pound. The cable of the tramway is about 3,400 feet in length.

Salisbury Sick Again.

It is officially announced that the marquis of Salisbury, the English premier and minister of foreign affairs, was greatly fatigued by the recent cabinet council and a return of the weakness from which he has suffered, following the attack of influenza, supervened, with the result that his physician advised the premier to take a complete rest in the south of France.

Six Men Injured.

The eighty-six foot steel span being placed at the end of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad drawbridge across the Mississippi river at Winona, Minn., fell with six men on it. The span had been moved two feet out to let a train pass, and it collapsed. The six men were badly shaken up and bruised.

Francis Joseph Stirs Europe.

The Austrian emperor is making great efforts to induce the European powers to prevent the United States from entering Europe of their carrying any further their interference in Cuban affairs. Emperor William is warmly seconding the efforts of Emperor Francis Joseph. The American government is aware of this situation.

Suicide of C. F. French.

Charles B. French, formerly a prominent citizen of Redlands, Cal., committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. He was formerly wealthy, but lost most of his money in speculation on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Death of Thomas McKean.

Thomas McKean died at Philadelphia. A few days ago he suffered a stroke of paralysis. His wealth is estimated between \$100,000 and \$200,000.

Tom Watson Named for Governor.

Tom Watson, the Georgia politician, has been named for Governor. He is a member of the Georgia legislature and has been a prominent figure in the state's politics.

young man and a resident of Napa, started in pursuit of them in a buggy. He overtook them a few miles from St. Helena and induced the girl to ride with him, the father consented to let her go. About 5 o'clock the horse which had been driven by young Bain entered the stable yard, and lying in the bottom of the buggy was the lifeless body of Miss Celia. She had been shot to death. The alarm was given and a search was made for Bain. His dead body was discovered a short distance from St. Helena. The supposition is that he shot and killed the girl and then killed himself.

IMPURE TEA SHUT OUT.

Attempt to Reimport Goods, Once Rejected, Is Detected.

An attempt to evade the new law for the exclusion of impure and adulterated teas has been detected and stopped by the tea examiners in the New York custom house. An official communication was sent by the appraiser to Collector-General, New York, advising the seizure of about 12,000 pounds of tea which arrived from London a few days ago. These teas were found on close inspection to be the same goods that were rejected by the Government experts several months ago when they arrived in this country from China. It is supposed that the tea was sent from New York to Canada, from there to London, and thence shipped to New York. According to the law the teas are subject to forfeiture.

BURN A POSTOFFICE.

Daring Crime of Three Men at Boonsboro, Mo.—Cuba, Kan., Visited.

Postoffice Inspector Dice at St. Louis, Mo., received details of the robbery of the postoffice at Boonsboro, Mo., by burglars who opened the safe, took several hundred dollars in cash and money, and then set fire to the building. W. W. Whyte, the postmaster, barely escaped being burned to death. Three strange men, ostensibly local buyers from Glasgow, Mo., are suspected. A report was received later that the postoffice at Cuba, Kan., was entered, the safe blown open and stamps and money stolen. Three suspects have been arrested by a posse of citizens.

Demonstration for Russia.

The Aurore of Paris affirms that the French fleet is being prepared for mobilization, and that the fleet is being readied at all the arsenals and shipyards, which are working until 10 o'clock at night. The Aurore says the French northern squadron at Cherbourg is ready for immediate departure. The ships, it appears, are being swung during the night at Cherbourg for the adjustment of the guns. It is also stated that in order to complete the necessary number of officers, second-year students are to be appointed midshipmen, and all the admirals have been instructed to arrange to reach Paris within twenty-four hours after being summoned. The Aurore explains that the mobilization is connected with preparations to support Russia by a naval demonstration in the far East.

France's Fresh Demands.

France has formulated the following demand: That China shall not cede any portion of the four provinces, Kwang Tung, Kwang Si, Yun Nan and Kweichow, to the Chinese. The French northern squadron at Cherbourg is ready for immediate departure. The ships, it appears, are being swung during the night at Cherbourg for the adjustment of the guns. It is also stated that in order to complete the necessary number of officers, second-year students are to be appointed midshipmen, and all the admirals have been instructed to arrange to reach Paris within twenty-four hours after being summoned. The Aurore explains that the mobilization is connected with preparations to support Russia by a naval demonstration in the far East.

Whips the Schoolmaster.

In a little brick schoolhouse, near the town of Dewey, N. Y., Schoolmaster Bowen received a terrible beating. His injuries are likely to prove fatal. The beating was administered by a young man, who is now being held in custody. The schoolmaster was severely injured and is now in a critical condition.

Steamer Sunk in Collision.

The bark British Princess, from Leith for Liverpool, was towed in to Lowestoft with her bows stove, having been in collision off Gibbard lightship with an unknown steamer. The steamer which collided with the British Princess sank within three minutes with all on board.

Took Carbolic Acid.

Meyer Landheim, said to be a wealthy tobacco merchant, who went to New York from Mississippi some years ago, was found in Central Park suffering from carbolic acid poisoning. He was taken to a hospital, where he died.

The Spanish Opinion.

A semi-official note issued in Madrid declares that Spain will not accept a report that the Maine disaster was due to an external explosion and that any demand for indemnity based thereon will be indignantly repelled.

Bessemer Pig-Iron Pool.

One of the biggest pools the country has ever known was formed in Cleveland. All Bessemer pig iron producers in the Cleveland, Mahoning valley and Shenango iron districts, except one, are bound together by the combine.

Sir Henry Bessemer Dies.

Sir Henry Bessemer, the celebrated inventor of Bessemer steel, died in London, England.

MARKET QUOTATIONS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.00 to \$5.75; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$4.25; sheep, fat to choice, \$2.50 to \$3.00; wheat, No. 1, \$1.15 to \$1.16; corn, No. 2, 27c to 28c; No. 3, 26c to 27c; No. 4, 25c to 26c; No. 5, 24c to 25c; No. 6, 23c to 24c; No. 7, 22c to 23c; No. 8, 21c to 22c; No. 9, 20c to 21c; No. 10, 19c to 20c; No. 11, 18c to 19c; No. 12, 17c to 18c; No. 13, 16c to 17c; No. 14, 15c to 16c; No. 15, 14c to 15c; No. 16, 13c to 14c; No. 17, 12c to 13c; No. 18, 11c to 12c; No. 19, 10c to 11c; No. 20, 9c to 10c; No. 21, 8c to 9c; No. 22, 7c to 8c; No. 23, 6c to 7c; No. 24, 5c to 6c; No. 25, 4c to 5c; No. 26, 3c to 4c; No. 27, 2c to 3c; No. 28, 1c to 2c; No. 29, 0c to 1c; No. 30, 0c to 1c; No. 31, 0c to 1c; No. 32, 0c to 1c; No. 33, 0c to 1c; No. 34, 0c to 1c; No. 35, 0c to 1c; No. 36, 0c to 1c; No. 37, 0c to 1c; No. 38, 0c to 1c; No. 39, 0c to 1c; No. 40, 0c to 1c; No. 41, 0c to 1c; No. 42, 0c to 1c; No. 43, 0c to 1c; No. 44, 0c to 1c; No. 45, 0c to 1c; No. 46, 0c to 1c; 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AGRICULTURAL



Points in Gardening.

A garden is not complete unless it contains a full variety of vegetables. It should not contain anything that is not desired. Peas should be grown for early, medium and late pickings, and early and late cabbages should be in the list. Tomatoes are essential in all gardens. The tomato is a plant that will have blossoms and fruit at all stages of growth, even to ripening, at the same time bearing a continuous crop until frost. There is nothing so easily grown as early beans, and they are luxuries compared with the field kinds. Carrots and parsnips are favorites with many, but the seeds should be planted early. A hundred strawberry plants will entail little or no labor, and are not only ornamental, but useful in a garden. Before next spring the bed will multiply to over 1,000 plants. They should be set out as early as the land will permit. Unless the garden is large, such crops as sweet corn and potatoes should be omitted. Try one or two plants for experiment of pepper, okra, eggplant and cauliflower, if not accustomed to growing such, and they will surely be added to the crops next year. The greater the variety the more enjoyment with a garden.

To Cut Up a Beef.

The following diagram shows the number and style of cuts into which a beef is divided at the Chicago Stock Yards. The average weight of each cut and the price paid per pound for it at wholesale are also given in the diagram. It will be seen that there is a wide range in the price per pound of the various parts, and that only a small portion commands the highest price. It is to be said of the pieces into which a steer is cut up that the choicest bits sell too high and some of the other portions too low.

Maple Sugar.

Is it not possible to utilize our maple trees more fully for making sugar? They are everywhere giving out as shade trees. In fact, the maple tree thrives admirably in groves, but you rarely find a perfect specimen standing alone on the lawn or in the street. Let us go back to the old habit of having a maple grove, and making our own sugar. Whether the best sugar ever made will prove a success or not, we know that maple-sugar making is a natural enterprise throughout all the Northern States. There ought to be fifty pounds made where there is one made now. Those who are fortunate enough to be in condition for making sugar this spring should not be turned aside from it, and hope to make more money by growing beets. Let us have the largest possible crop of maple sugar. It will pay better at 8 or 10 cents a pound than beet sugar at 4.

Shippers' Improved Milk Can.

A milk can for shippers that will always hold a given quantity of milk is shown in the accompanying illustration. The method of securing this result is by having an exterior of corrugated skin or covering, and within it the regulation can. Then, no matter if the can should be dented in transit, the interior receptacle will still hold its original shape. This alteration of capacity in cans when they become dented or battered is a very serious one in the dairy industry, resulting in frequent disputes and much litigation.—Philadelphia Record.

For Early Vegetables.

If you have a south slope, plow a heavy furrow on the north side of the row, throwing the soil as high as possible. Turn light furrow slice back against this. Rake the south slope to any pitch desired, and plant midway from top to bottom on the south side. This secures an earlier drying out of the soil, especially if rather coarse manure is covered inside the ridge, which also assists in warming up the land, and permits more direct rays of the sun, increasing earliness from ten to fifteen days. To level land again, turn top of ridge back into the bottom of north side furrows.

Evergreen Trees from Seed.

Evergreen seeds may be planted in beds of leaf mold mixed with sand. The seeds should be covered with a little sand and wet down, and clean bay put over the beds, until the seeds germinate. After the plants appear they may be shaded with screens of laths, watered in dry weather, and have dry sand sprinkled around them in wet weather to prevent too much dampness. Seeds of evergreens are often germinated and the plants well started only with great difficulty, and skill is requisite of success.

Care of Farm Tools.

Tools on the farm may be costly when they are kept in place. When the busy work comes, the implement must be put out of its location—really lost and a new one must then be purchased. Some maple

meals may then need repairs, which should have been procured weeks before. Cases are known in which farmers who have changed locations found themselves loaded with tools that they did not suppose they had, the clearing up of goods for removal bringing to light those that had been put in some out-of-the-way place. Another careless class of farmers is that which stores the tools in places so safe that they forget them, and though intending to be careful they endeavor to keep in remembrance the location which they cannot recall. An inventory of farm implements and tools once or twice a year would change such conditions.

Bare Places in Meadows.

It sometimes happens that meadows which were good one year are eaten out by grubs in the root in fall, or are destroyed by winter-freezing, making bare places. These are not only unsightly, but as nature abhors a vacuum, such places are quickly filled up with weeds. If there are many such places, it is better to apply what manure can be spared and reseed. But if there are only a few, harrowing the bare places and throwing on some grass seed and a top dressing of manure will probably make a sod by fall. But no crop of grass can be expected from such land this year, and, if possible, it should be plowed for a year's cropping, to be reseeded the following year.

The Draught of Chimneys.

Many chimneys have defective draught because more pains is taken to make a smooth outside where the mason work shows, than on the inside, where the efficiency of the chimney depends on the smoothness of the interior. A well-proportioned chimney should be at least as large at its top as it is at bottom. This rule is often violated, some people having the idea that if the aperture at the top is made smaller the smoke will be forced out more violently. It may seem to be so, but such chimneys will soon clog up by the smoke condensing on their sides, besides throwing a good deal of smoke through the lower rooms of the house.

To Destroy Lice on Stock.

The common fruit tree sprayer used by orchardists is a much more convenient way to destroy lice on cattle than it is to apply it by hand. A hose with a fine nozzle which will throw very fine spray is best, but its point should be held close to the skin. Two or three applications may be needed, as some of the lice may be in the egg, and not be destroyed by the first application.

Charcoal for Lawns.

The dark color of charcoal makes it absorb heat, and thus warm the land to which it is applied as a dressing. It may also have considerable manurial value, as the charcoal easily absorbs ammonia, and if soaked in strong manure water from a compost, it will carry the ammonia to the lawn in less offensive form than in the manure, which is so often used for that purpose.

Cultivation of Beets.

Clay loam is often the finest beet soil, but on account of subsiding and because of the need of good drainage, it must not have a rough clay or hardpan underneath. Perfect beets demand not only depth, mellowness and fertility as soil characteristics, but, as well, freedom from standing water for any length of time and from such stones as would interfere with cultivation.

Selecting a Calf.

A correspondent suggests a novel idea for selecting a calf which is intended for a milk cow. He says: "Never keep a calf with a thick, short, stubby tail or otherwise of an ox-like appearance unless for the feed lot. This is a simple way of ascertaining a desirable piece of information, and the writer wishes some would try it."—Journal of Agriculture.

Sheep Feeding.

Feeding sheep for market should be a separate business from simply raising them in the usual manner. They should receive clover hay and a liberal allowance of ground grain, as well as be sheltered in a large yard, in order not to have them travel over the fields while fattening, the object being to fatten them quickly, and sell as soon as they are ready.

Marketing Parsnips.

The demand for parsnips is best in winter, and in the Southern States they are allowed to remain in the ground until wanted, while in the Northern States they are dug late in fall and stored in trenches. They are shipped in small ventilated barrels, the tops having been removed and the roots washed when necessary.

Transplanting Nut Trees.

Nut trees as a rule have long tap roots, and it has been handed down for years that to cut this tap root when transplanting them meant death to the tree, but experience shows different. If the long tap root is cut many laterals are set out, and thus a fine strong root system is established, which will make a good tree.—Rural World.

Shelter Saves Food.

A herd of twenty cows that are not properly sheltered and kept warm in winter will eat enough additional food to more than pay for shingling the leaking roof over them, and they will also lose more than enough in the product of milk or butter to paint the building. Shelter saves food and promotes health.

Have a Trade Mark.

Business men have trade marks; so should the farmer. The farmer who uses a trade mark, and puts it on everything he sells in packages, advertises his goods and creates a market for his products. In adopting a trade mark, however, only the best and choicest articles should be sold.

To Get Rid of Beech Ticks.

After much experience I find that if sheep are fed sulphur and salt regularly they will not be troubled with ticks.—C. R. Westcott.

SILVER AND PRICES.

BASIC ARGUMENT OF BRYAN THEORY DISPROVED.

Steady Advance in Value of Farm Products Accompanies Decline in the White Metal—Another Nail for the Coffin of Free Coinage Fanaticism.

Quotations Are Compared.

Mr. Bryan's recent trip through the South is understood to have been made with the purpose of trying to strengthen the waning cause of silver in that section, and at the same time to encourage fusion, which has been coldly received by the Populists of the South generally. The tone of the Populist press has been far from satisfactory to the fusion leaders, and great anxiety is felt among the friends of silver lest this last attempt to unite the voters of the three parties in its support will prove an absolute failure. The Populist press of that section is insisting that the party cannot march under Democratic banners, and is carefully omitting the active support of the silver cause which characterized the earlier history of the party and press.

The rapid improvement of business conditions in the South and the advance in prices of farm products generally, in the face of the steady fall of silver, is a most significant fact, and is causing the average citizen to lose confidence in those assertions which were the basis of the silver campaign in 1896.

Notwithstanding the claim that prices could not rise without the free coinage of silver, there has been a steady advance in practically all farm products since the date of Mr. Bryan's nomination, and this has happened in the face of a steady fall in the price of silver.

Upward Course of Prices.

These tables, which show the range of prices in silver and various farm products, are too lengthy to reproduce in full. It is practicable, however, to present in a single table the history of the upward course of prices in all classes of farm products in the face of the downward course of silver. These facts are especially interesting and make the table one worth the study and preservation of everyone interested in the coming campaign.

Montana's Sheep, Wool and Cattle.

The extent to which Montana has been benefited by the Dingley tariff is shown in the annual report of the State Commissioner of Labor, Agriculture and Industry. For the year 1897 there were owned in Montana 2,095,192 sheep, with a wool production of 24,012,405 pounds. The average selling price for the year was 11.53 cents per pound, against 8.01 cents per pound in 1896, and the values of the clips for the two years were, respectively, \$2,780,647 and \$1,745,402, a gain of more than \$1,000,000 in favor of the clip of 1897.

Free Trade Stock Arguments.

Just as soon as the Dingley tariff begins to yield a steady surplus the enemies of protection will set up a howl about "needless taxation," "draining the people's substance," "accumulation of millions of idle money a temptation to extravagance and profligacy in Government expenditures," and all that sort of thing. The law was a failure while it fell short of producing necessary revenue through no fault of its own, and it will be a "quack" and a "blight" the moment it shows itself as a surplus producer. Here are the stock arguments of the free-traders.

Substantial Benefits.

New Jersey has greatly benefited by the new tariff. Pottery importation increased 50 per cent. under the Wilson law, and decreased about 50 per cent. under the Dingley law. The importation of silk, flax and other similar goods decreased about 40 per cent. in the five months of 1897. In glass and glassware New Jersey is benefited to the extent of 50 per cent. The new tariff law has already proved a conspicuous success. You can always hereafter count New Jersey among the Republican tariff States of the Union.—Newark Advertiser.

The Family Had Moved.

The Washington Post told of a member of Congress who was going home very late when he met a young man who was hopelessly drunk. The Congressman had no sooner pulled the bell than the door was swung open and a tall and vigorous woman appeared. She said not a word, but grabbed the intoxicated young man by the collar and gave him a shaking that fairly loosened his teeth. Into the hall she shook him and slammed the door. The Congressman was descending the steps, when the door opened again and his friend flew out as if flung from a catapult. He landed at the foot of the stairs, and the Congressman picked him up. He was very much frightened, and he was almost sobbing. He managed to gasp out: "We don't live here. We've moved last week." The really interesting thing would be to know what happened to the man who does live there.

Tables on Southern Production.

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1891	1,000,000	1.00
1892	1,000,000	1.00
1893	1,000,000	1.00
1894	1,000,000	1.00
1895	1,000,000	1.00
1896	1,000,000	1.00
1897	1,000,000	1.00
1898	1,000,000	1.00
1899	1,000,000	1.00
1900	1,000,000	1.00

	Av. price	Year's production
1872	22.10	2,074,351
1873	15.46	3,827,485
1874	12.98	4,032,318
1875	11.51	5,701,252
1876	8.28	6,075,091
1877	8.00	9,003,525
1878	7.44	11,000,000
1879	7.40	

It Is a Money Maker.

Receipts averaging more than \$1,000,000 per day under the Dingley law are shown by the figures for February, the total for the twenty-eight days being \$28,672,538.

The Receipts of February, 1897.

The Wilson-Gorman law were \$24,400,097, a difference of \$4,171,541 in favor of the Dingley law.

The receipts from customs alone during the month of February, 1896, were \$15,040,680, against \$11,587,260 for the Wilson-Gorman law during the same month a year ago.

The expenditures for the month of February were \$26,720,010, leaving an actual surplus of \$1,843,258. This is the first surplus the month of February has shown since the election of President Cleveland and his free trade Congress.

The average daily receipts for February were \$1,020,447, this being more than \$17,000 a day in excess of the average daily expenditures during the last five years.

The Total Receipts under the Dingley Law.

The total receipts under the Dingley law have gained steadily from August, 1897, to February, 1898, inclusive, the average daily receipts showing an increase every month over the receipts of the preceding month. Thus, for August last the daily receipts averaged \$629,704; for September, \$731,103; for October, \$780,819; for November, \$888,006; for December, \$901,115; for January, \$934,684; and for February, \$1,020,447.

Comparative Receipts under the Wilson and Dingley Laws for the First Seven Months of Their Operation Show a Balance in Favor of the Dingley Law of \$16,615,743.

The Law that Produces a Surplus of Revenue over Expenditures while at the Same Time Defending American Industries from Foreign Competition is a Good Law.

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In the Abstract of the Commissioner's Report which has reached us no mention is made of the comparative market values of the sheep for the two years, but it is safe to conclude that Montana is no exception to the general rule of heavy increase in sheep values as the result of the Dingley tariff, and that at the rate of an increase of \$1 per head the sheep owners of that State are more than \$3,000,000 richer than they were a year ago.

Cattle in Montana Have Advanced in Value \$4 a Head, and the Shipments for 1897 amounted to \$7,109,934, against \$3,420,512 in 1896.

It is, therefore, evident that in the three items of sheep, wool and cattle Montana's gain as the result of six months of protection has been about \$8,000,000. This is a goodly sum, but it is only a fraction of the gross sum of the benefits which that State has realized from the reinauguration of the American policy.

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SPAIN'S AMERICAN POSSESSIONS.



Spain owned one hundred years ago a great part of what is now the United States, all of Mexico, Central and South America save Brazil, and the Guianas, and many of the West Indies.

Submarine Mines.

What These Destructive Forces Are and How They Are Exploded.

Submarine mines have been much talked of since the Maine disaster, but comparatively few persons know anything about the laying or operating of these destructive forces, or of their uses. Mines were used extensively by the Confederates during the civil war, and the Germans made good use of them in keeping the French fleet from bombarding her ports during the Franco-Russian war. Great improvements have been made recently, however, and the introduction of high explosives for use instead of gunpowder has greatly increased the power and defensive range of mines. These mines are solely for harbor defense and are particularly useful in this country. With an extensive coast and many large seaports,

The Ram Katahdin.

The Powerful U. S. Turtle-back Ship Recently Placed in Commission.

The belief prevails among naval officers that in a naval fight the country would be electrified with the havoc caused among the enemy's fleet by such a vessel as the Katahdin. No modern vessel of this kind has ever been used in actual warfare, and, in fact, the Katahdin is about the only craft of her kind in the world. She resembles the old-style ram Merrimack only in the use of armor, the employment of steam power and the pointed steel prow.

The Ram Katahdin in Action.

plant such a system of mines that an enemy cannot pass.

The Ram Katahdin in Action.

There are several kinds of submarine mines. The simplest form is the contact mine, which consists of an iron case (A), containing the explosive charge, and a cable (C) attaching it to the sinker (D), by which it is held in place. The case (A) has a number of projecting points (B), each armed with a firing pin. If a ship hits one of these firing pins the latter will be driven in, exploding a percussion cap, and the charge will then burst. The distance of the charge (A) below the surface must be so regulated that it may not

The Ram Katahdin in Action.

the load water line of 250.9 feet and her beam or ram, which is below the water line, gives her an extreme length of about 251 feet. Other statistics of the vessel are: Displacement under normal coal supply, 2,155 tons; mean draught, 15 feet; indicated horsepower, 5,068; speed, 10.11 knots; capacity of coal bunkers, 192.70 tons. The Katahdin is propelled by two screws. Her full complement consists of 90 men.

The Avalanche.

J. C. HANSON, LOCAL EDITOR.
THURSDAY, MAR. 24, 1898.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Alabastine, in all colors, for sale by Albert Kraus.

Mrs. S. C. Briggs, of Roscommon, was in town, last Saturday.

TO RENT—Four room cottage in good condition. Enquire at this office.

Save postage by subscribing for a Magazine, at J. W. Sorenson's.

Hugo Schreiber and son, of Groves township, were in town, last Saturday.

FOR SALE—House and lot, cheap. For particulars enquire of S. W. Colter.

A. Taylor is making arrangements to fence and clear up a forty, he owns on the East Branch.

Subscriptions received for all the leading magazines, at lowest rates, at J. W. Sorenson's.

Thos. Trueman, brother of Miss Kitty Trueman, left for his home in Toledo, last Saturday morning.

FOR SALE—Two second-hand bicycles in good condition, at Fournier's Drug Store.

Arthur Wakeley and J. Pym, of Groves township, were in town, last Thursday.

Subscriptions received for all the leading magazines, at lowest rates, at J. W. Sorenson's.

Ride a Crescent Bicycle. For sale at the store of Salling, Hanson & Co.

Comrade J. Burton, of Center Plains township, was in town last Thursday.

Leave your subscription for Magazines, etc., with J. W. Sorenson, and save your postage.

Farmers are busy ordering plows, preparatory to commencing their spring work.

If you want to buy a strictly high grade bicycle buy the Premier. For sale by Albert Kraus.

There is a big demand now for houses to rent. We had three applications for one house, last Friday.

Subscriptions received for all the leading magazines at lowest rates, at J. W. Sorenson's.

Buy a sack of Pratt's Food for your horses or cattle, of Salling, Hanson & Co.

The Presque Isle county Republican has suspended for lack of support.

Subscriptions received for all the leading magazines at lowest rates, at J. W. Sorenson's.

Miss Olive Sherman and Miss Ethel Hoyt, of Maple Forest, are the guests of Miss Addie Marvin, this week.

Wm. Walker, son-in-law of A. C. Wilcox, has been granted a pension to date from some time last year.

Conrad Howse, of Maple Forest, was in town, Tuesday, negotiating for a new wagon.

Syracuse Plows, Harrows and Cultivators, for sale by Salling, Hanson & Co.

Regular meeting of Crawford Tent No. 192 K. O. T. M., Saturday evening, the 26th.

Mrs. Russell, mother of George Comer and Mrs. M. Taylor, who has been quite sick, is slowly improving.

Prof. Benkelman went to Lansing, the beginning of the week for a short visit.

Regular meeting of Marvin W. R. C., Saturday afternoon, the 26th, at the usual hour.

J. E. McKnight trots out his new black team in front of a Harrison wagon, the best running wagon on wheels, sold by O. Palmer.

Regular meeting of Marvin Post, No. 240, Grand Army of the Republic, next Saturday evening, the 26th, at the usual hour.

Mrs. Brown and son, of West Bay City, wife of conductor Brown, were the guests of Mrs. J. E. McKnight, last week.

We have now a big stock of Barbed Wire on hand. Get our prices before buying elsewhere.

S. H. & Co.

The Owens girl, arrested as a disorderly person, was sent to the Reformatory School, last Saturday, in charge of A. H. Wisner, county agent.

S. Odell, of Center Plains township was in town last Thursday. He intends to devote his time to farming, this year.

Topic for Christian Endeavor, next Sunday, March 27th: "Gods unfailing Promises." Ps. 91: 1-16. Iva High, Leader.

We shall forward our order for Sand Vetch and turn seeds the first of next week. All who wish to secure the club advantage of low price, must bring in their orders.

Among our callers yesterday were Messrs Sho's, Nichols and Johnson, of Center Plains.

Jay Evans has succeeded Miss Parsons as bookkeeper in the market. Miss Parsons is attending school at Monroe.

Miss Sargent, of West Branch, assisted by other ladies of that village, will give an entertainment at the Opera House, next Thursday evening.

C. S. Barber, of Frederic, was in town Monday. He is improving his farm, so that he will have a team of his own for this summer's work.

Mrs. Frank Crowe, of Worth, returned home Tuesday afternoon, after an extended visit with relatives and friends in this county.

Wm. A. Masters was fortunate enough to secure a fine silver gray fox, last week, and shot a black one last Monday.

By a lucky cast of a stone, a few nights ago, Wm. Fairbotham killed a huge wildcat that was in his chicken coop.

Miss Etile Coventry went home, last Saturday, for the week of school vacation. The other teachers all remain in the village.

The grand ball to be given by the Woman's Relief Corps April 1st, has been postponed until later.

Mrs. C. W. Wigney, Sec.

A. E. Newman has his new house nearly enclosed. It is a beautiful site at the head of Ionia street, and will be a commodious and pleasant residence. He has ten acres of land, and will be a miniature farmer.

The attention of our readers is called to the Curfew Resolution of the township board, and it is hoped our citizen will all assist in its enforcement. If each parent will do their part there will be no need of prosecution.

W. Trombley and mother, of West Branch, were visiting with friends in town from Saturday until Monday. Wintred was at one time one of our types, and we were pleased to see him. He is a sorter or inspector in the last factory at West Branch.

Last Thursday evening Julius Kramer was a scared tailor. The chandelier in his store fell and broke several of the lamps, and the oil ignited on the floor, but was readily extinguished, without damage, but it was a close call for a disastrous conflagration.

Ed. Douglas was exercising his bay horse, Monday evening, when, in front of R. Hanson's residence, the animal whirled like a flash, and started back toward town, nearly upsetting the carriage. Only an expert horseman could have controlled him.

"Ye Local" got the "Old Man" in a heap of trouble, last week, by his notice of Mrs. Wright's new wheel. It seems that Miss Williams and Mrs. Salling each have one of exactly the same style, which they received first, and they propose to prosecute the AVA LANCHE for libel. We confess our omission, and are willing to be forgiven.

Last Sunday morning a freight train broke in two just north of the village, and the two parts came together with such force that two cars were telescoped, and hundreds of bushels of flax seed, with which they were loaded, was strewn along the track. Quite an amount was secured by our citizens, that was left by the R. R. Co., being mixed with sand and snow.

Entertainment at the Opera House.

Benefit of Knights of Pythias.

Thursday Evening, March 31st, 1898.

PROGRAMME.

1. Vocal Solo—"Mammy's Little Pumpkin Colored Coons," Mrs. Sargent.

2. Negro Dialect Recitations—"Mammy's Little Boy," "How Persimmon took care of the Baby," Miss Sargent.

3. Mixed Dialect Recitations—"A Tale of Two Sweethearts," "Bridget's Soliloquy," "Miss Cecily learning to cook," Miss Sargent.

4. Vocal Solo (comic) Miss Sargent.

5. Child Dialect—Selections from Riley, "Life in a Hotel," "The Missionary Man," Miss Sargent.

6. Instrumental Solo.

7. Character Songs—Quartet.

8. Recitation—"An Old Maid's Leap Year Mishaps," Miss Emma Husted.

9. Delsarte Poses and Tableaux—Miss Sargent.

To be concluded with the funniest farce ever witnessed, entitled:

"HERE SHE GOES! THERE SHE GOES!"

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Jeremiah Hayseed, Scraphina's Pa. Mrs. Hayseed, Scraphina's Ma.

Scraphina, Their Daughter. Angelo Dunsbury, Scraphina's Beau. Heshkiah Burdock, who wants to be Scraphina's Beau.

ADMISSION—15c and 20c.

Louisa Wolf, of Detroit, arrived in town this morning, looking for land and a new home.

Mr. Dyer has opened a restaurant and home bakery on Railroad Street, first door north of the Grayling House, where they invite the patronage of the public.

Marlus Hanson starts for Toledo, his new home and place of business, to-morrow, and bears with him the sincere wish of the AVA LANCHE that he may be successful and that his new location and surroundings will be as pleasant as those he left.

The Ladies' Aid Society of the Presbyterian Church will meet at the residence of Mrs. W. A. Masters, to-morrow, Friday, afternoon. A ten cent lunch will be served, and a cordial invitation is extended to all friends of the society.

Rev. R. L. Cope held service in the M. E. Church, last evening. Mr. Cope is an eloquent and earnest speaker, and easily commands the attention of his audience. His illustrations are timely and well taken, and it is a pleasure to listen to him. —Roscommon News.

The April number of the Delineator is called the Spring number, and as a woman's magazine appeals to cultivated tastes as pre-eminently the model of the highest excellence in fashionable interest and literary charm. The latest developments in dress, the Seasonable Fabrics, Preferred Garments and Accessories are depicted and described in the usual faultless manner. The Return of the Prodigal, by Jeanie Drake, is a pretty Southern story of the strange homecoming of a wandering minstrel. The Common Ills of Life, continued by Grace Peckham Murray, M. D., deals with conditions essential to perfect health. Many graceful movements and groupings for Children's Dramas and Tableaux are suggested in the Fairy Frolic, by Lucy Jenkins. An entertaining love story, by Ellen Olney Kirk, is entitled At Arden House. The Tea-Table, by Edna Witherspoon, for the Children, The Latest Books, Knitting, Crocheting, Lace-Making, etc., add an abundance of attractive features. The Delineator is issued by The Butterick Publishing Company, 17 W. 13th Street, New York, at the remarkably low rate of \$1.00 for a year's subscription, or 15 cents per copy.

Beats the Klondike.

Mr. A. C. Thomas, of Marysville, Tex., has found a more valuable discovery than has yet been made in the Klondike. For years he suffered untold agony from consumption, accompanied by hemorrhages, and was absolutely cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds. He declares that gold is of little value in comparison with this marvelous cure; would have it even if it cost a hundred dollars a bottle. Asthma, Bronchitis and all throat and lung affections are positively cured by Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption. Trial bottles free at L. Fournier's Drug Store. Regular size 50c and \$1.00. Guaranteed or price refunded.

The state experiment station will sow a quantity of Bromus Inermis in this county, this spring. This is the Russian grass which the AVA LANCHE has spoken of for the past year, as adapted to dry, sandy soils.

Notice to Teachers.

Owing to a misunderstanding in some quarters, the Superintendent of Public Instruction has postponed the teacher's examination, announced in last week's paper for the 24th and 25th of March, until a week later, beginning March 31st.

FLORA M. MARVIN, Com'r. of Schools.

Curfew Ordinance.

WHEREAS complaint has been made by the trustees and teachers of the public schools of the township of Grayling, Mich., calling the attention of the township board to the gross violation of the law, regulating the hours the children between certain ages are allowed upon the streets after certain hours at night, associating with persons of questionable character, and visiting places of bad reputation;

Therefore, by virtue of the power and authority vested in said board, it is hereby

Resolved that from and after the first day of April A. D. 1898 it is hereby declared to be unlawful for girls between the ages of ten and seventeen years, and boys between the ages of ten and sixteen years to be found upon the public streets of the village of Grayling, Mich., unless accompanied by their parents or guardians, after the hour of nine o'clock p. m. For any violation of this resolution punishment will be inflicted according to the provisions of the statute in such cases made and provided, and the sheriff and all other officers of the law, are called upon to arrest all offenders, and forthwith take such persons before any magistrate of said township, where such punishment will be imposed as the law provides.

Dated March 21st 1898.

JAMES K. WRIGHT, Supervisor.

JAMES K. BATES, J. P.

DANIEL MCKAY, J. P.

NELSON LERSON, Clerk.

WAR WITH SPAIN!

WAR WITH SPAIN, has been the talk of the day, but now it is all about

CLAGGETT'S

NEW STOCK

OF SHOES.

THE LATEST STYLES IN GENTS, LADIES & CHILDRENS' SHOES.

Also Sole Agent For The Celebrated LITTLE GIANT SCHOOL SHOE. The Best on Earth, for Wear and Durability.

Every Department Jam Full Of BARGAINS!

Our TEAS and Coffees can not be excelled. If you want good Flour, try McArthur's Patent, or Roller Champion. The best in the market.

Our Motto is GOOD GOODS, QUICK SALES and SMALL PROFITS. Come and be convinced.

S. S. CLAGGETT, GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

BEEF, WINE AND IRON, OUR OWN MAKE, ONLY FIFTY CENTS, A PINT BOTTLE.

JUST RECEIVED A FINE LINE OF BOX PAPER, RANGING IN PRICE FROM FIVE TO FIFTY CENTS PER BOX.

AT THE OLD RELIABLE DRUG STORE OF LUCIEN FOURNIER, GRAYLING, MICHIGAN.

Bucklin's Arnica Salve. THE BEST SALVE in the world for Cuts, Bruises, Sores, Ulcers, Fever Sores, Salt Rheum, Tetters, Chapped Hands, Chills, Corns and all Skin Eruptions, and positively cures Piles, or no pay required. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction, or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by L. Fournier, druggist.

The Trouble Over. A prominent man in town exclaimed the other day: "My wife has been wearing out her life from the effects of Dyspepsia, Liver Complaint and Indigestion. Her case baffled the skill of our best physicians. After using three packages of Bacon's Colery King for the nerves she is almost entirely well." Keep your blood in a healthy condition by the use of this great vegetable compound. Call at L. Fournier's, sole agent, and get a trial package free. Large sizes 50c and 25c.

The Michigan experiment station at Lansing, has found after repeated tests that about four times as much food can be obtained from a meadow by allowing it to mature hay than by pasturing it. This means that four cows can be kept on the land by growing hay than by pasturing it; or, to show it in another light, four times as much land is required for pasture as for hay, for the same number of cattle. Green food is given by growing soiling crops, but in soiling from two to three times the number of cows can be maintained than by pasturing.

A Horrible Railroad Accident. Is a daily chronicle in our papers; also the death of some dear friend, who had died from Consumption, whereas, if he or she had taken Otto's Cure for Throat and Lung diseases in time, life would have been rendered happier and perhaps saved. Heed the warning! If you have a cough giving tone to the stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per Box. Sold by L. Fournier, Druggist.

Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action, and are particularly effective in the cure of constipation and sick headache. For malaria and liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to the stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per Box. Sold by L. Fournier, Druggist.

Jack Pine Items. The roads that have been blocked by snow drifts, are now quite passable.

Geo. Hartman, of Ball, is in the south part of the state, where his wife has been sick all winter.

Justice Hartman, just across the county line, anticipates building a new house in the near future. That's right, John, make the cage before you catch the bird.

There has been considerable sickness among the children in this neighborhood, for the past two weeks.

Free Pills. Send your address to H. E. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action, and are particularly effective in the cure of constipation and sick headache. For malaria and liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are guaranteed to be perfectly free from every deleterious substance and to be purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to the stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per Box. Sold by L. Fournier, Druggist.

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SPECIALS.

READ OUR OFFERINGS THIS WEEK.

Two Yard wide Extra Quality, Bleached Sheetting, cheap at 20 c. SPECIAL PRICE 15 CENTS.

Two Yard wide Unbleached Sheetting, a fine even thread cotton, regular value 18 cents. Special Price 12 1-2 cents.

Fruit of the Loom and Lonsdale Cotton. You all know their Merits, Worth and Value, Special Price, 6 1-2 cents.

Our new Spring Goods are coming in right along. None but the best the market affords, and for the least money.

Every Style Absolutely New.

Look for our Wall Paper announcements. Watch Us. We will interest you.

IKE ROSENTHAL, Grayling, Michigan.

STRICTLY ONE PRICE. Clothing, Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, Trunks, &c., &c.

W.B. FLYNN, Dentist, WEST BRANCH, MICH.

WILL make regular trips to Grayling the 10th of each month, remaining for three days. Office with Dr. Insley.

THE LAWRENCE SEWING MACHINE!

HIGH ARM, FINE DRAWERS, STRICTLY RELIABLE. FREE SET NICKEL PLATED ATTACHMENTS, FOR \$13.50.

NOTE THE PRICE, ONLY \$13.50.

THE LAWRENCE IS WARRANTED FOR 10 YEARS.

We are bound to please the citizens of GRAYLING, and the LAWRENCE will do it.

Send for Illustrated Circulars. W. H. BELL, Bay City, Michigan.

Combination Offer.

For 1898 we offer the following combination prices to paid up subscribers:

The Avalanche - \$1.00
Semi-Weekly Detroit Evening Journal - 80

Both papers - \$1.55

The Avalanche - 1.00
Twice-a-week Free Press - 85

Both papers - 1.60

The Avalanche - 1.00
Michigan Farmer - 1.00

Both papers - 1.55

The Avalanche - 1.00
Weekly-Chicago Inter-Ocean - 1.00

Both papers - 1.50

Notice.

Parties having young cattle can find a ready market for them by applying to us. We will pay highest market price.

SALLING, HANSON & Co.

Auction! Auction!

I will sell at Public Auction, on Saturday, March 26th, 1898, the following property: Farming Implements, Carpenter Tools, Household Furniture, &c., &c.

Mrs. A. J. ROSI.

Republican Caucus.

A Republican Caucus will be held at the Town Hall, on Saturday, March 26th, 1898, at 7:30 p. m., for the purpose of placing in nomination a township ticket, and for the transaction of such other business as may come before it. By order of Township Committee.

T. A. CARNEY, Chairman. M. A. BATES, Sec'y.

Democratic-Union-Silver Caucus.

There will be a Democratic-Union-Silver-Caucus at the Court House, in the village of Grayling, on Monday evening, March 28th, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of placing in nomination a township ticket, and transacting such other business as may properly come before it.

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NAVY SIGNAL SERVICE

HOW SHIP CAPTAINS SEND SECRETS ACROSS THE WATER.

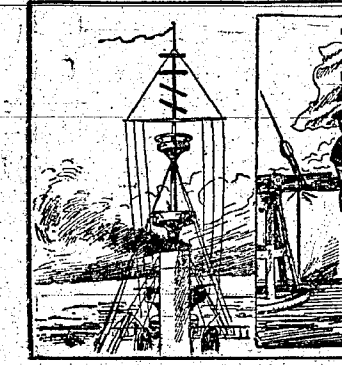
This manner of giving orders is now a matter of science—messages can be sent at night—electric lights that talk.

Signals of Ships.
Of all the things that went down in the Maine, nothing was more vital to the navy than the safe recovery of the signal books from the captain's hands. Should they have fallen into the hands of the Spaniards, our secret codes would be common property, and a whole corps of Spanish spies, right in our service, could scarcely embarrass us more.



FLIGHT SIGNALS OR FLAGS.

New books would have to be issued, and before every ship could be notified and supplied anew with other "keys," months of priceless time would be lost and our service severely crippled. Signaling between ships is as old as the hills, almost; but only within recent years has it become the scientific necessity it is today. A ship without some means of distant signaling is even worse off than a dumb man without arms, for she is not only pitifully mute, but dangerously so as well. It is self-



SPEED CODE AND FLAG SIGNALS.

served, however, that she had turned her head so as to keep an eye on her persecutor. It took her a few minutes to get the range, and meanwhile the bicycle idiot grew bold and reckless, encouraged by her quiet behavior. Suddenly the animal darted forward, so as to get a slack in the rope, stopped and let both heels fly. Her aim was sure this time, and the bicycle went out from under the idiot's feet. The street car spectators raised a shout, the motorman rang a chime with his gong and the farmer and his boy whipped up the horse. The impassive cow only wiggled her ears and gave an imaginary fly on her side a triumphant slap with her tail. The wheel was so twisted that the rider had to walk home as helplessly as the cow was being led. He will not sue the owner of the cow.—Worcester (Mass.) Gazette.



ROCKET AND SEARCHLIGHT.

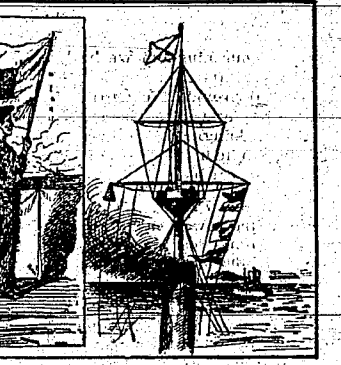
matter to flash for miles our messages with accuracy and quickness and be sure of their proper reading. For day use—getting aside that polyglot international flag code common to all maritime nations—we have the service flag code, the wig-wag or single-flag code familiar to nearly every modern schoolboy, the semaphore code, an elaboration of the railway signals, and the whistle code to be used either day or night in foggy weather. The use of the speed code, hoisted on the yard arm to give the gradation of concealed speed, can hardly be called a code. Aside from the flag code, consisting essentially of thirteen elements or flags representing the numerals from 9 to 0 and three repeaters—substituted in place of duplications, and the semaphore covering the same numerals and all the letters of the alphabet, the two remaining—the wig-wag and the whistle—are based upon the familiar telegraph codes of dots and dashes. The semaphore in our service can hardly be counted upon in time of war, for the New York is the only vessel so fitted, and the rest of the ships are practically unpracticed in reading it. In the British service, the semaphore is one of the most tried day-time methods of signaling; and the rapidity and accuracy with which they can dispatch messages is truly wonderful. With our blue-jackets they look upon it as something akin to marine railroading, and are not complimentary in their remarks. With the thirteen principal flags of our day code, supplemented by a half dozen designating pennants, it is possible to make about 12,000 different "hoists" or combinations, varying from one to two, three, or four flags, not counting the pennants. These hoists indicate the numbers of certain established orders or instructions carried in the "key" books of the service, and, with very few common exceptions, these orders are not memorized. Each ship carries a number of signal books or "keys" for various uses—all arranged in the same manner, and perhaps many having duplications of the numbers, and it is necessary first to tell in which "key" the answer is to be read before the signal can be properly translated. In one book "4133" may mean "Attack," and still something else in the other book. On going into action, every vessel with a lead is slipped about them, and a whole corps of Spanish spies, right in our service, could scarcely embarrass us more.

tion, its beauty often comes from the outside; yet the nation gets the credit for it. Not is the highest beauty to be found among the aristocracy, but among the "people."

THE AMERICAN GIRL

One Artist Declares that There Is No Distinct American Face.
Recently the New York Herald invited several distinguished artists to draw sketches showing the conception of each of the distinctive type of American young woman. The accompanying picture is Mr. W. T. Smedley's idea. But it is not offered as a distinctive type, because Mr. Smedley declares that there is no distinct American face.

"The American girl," he said, "is American mainly in general get-up—in manner, bearing and dress. Were you to dress a number of men or women of different nationalities exactly alike you could not, I believe, easily pick out the representative of one from the other. I've seen Russians who looked like Uncle Sam and Americans who looked like Russians, and I've known any number of similar instances. Similarly in a nation."



THE AMERICAN GIRL.

How Chinese Catch Fish.
The drug used by the Chinese in catching fish is Cocculus Indicus, which is powdered and mixed with dough and scattered broadcast over the water after the manner of sowing seed. The fish seize and devour it with avidity and instantly become intoxicated and turn up by hundreds on the top of the water. They are then gathered up and placed in vessels containing clear water.



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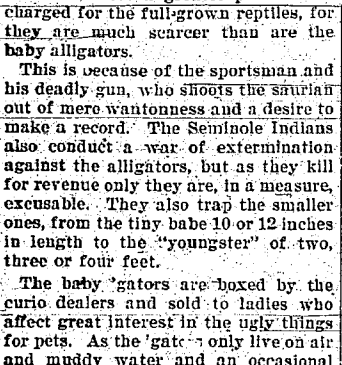
tion, its beauty often comes from the outside; yet the nation gets the credit for it. Not is the highest beauty to be found among the aristocracy, but among the "people."

A FORGERY.

Mr. John R. Proctor, formerly State Geologist of Kentucky, has written an article for the Century on "The Mammoth Cave of Kentucky." Mr. Proctor says:

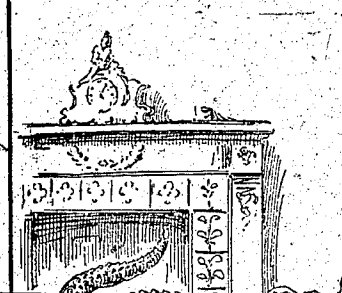
Passing southward through Kentucky on the Louisville and Nashville Railway, the observant traveler will notice that about forty miles from Louisville the road climbs Muldrow's Hill, which is the northern escarpment of an elevated limestone plateau sloping gently to the south and west. The road traverses this plateau for about one hundred miles, and descends a southern escarpment into the basin of central Tennessee. In this distance only three streams are crossed—Nolin, Green, and Barren Rivers; and between these rivers the entire surface drainage passes away through subterranean channels, giving rise to a curious "sink-hole" topography which is peculiar to this region. These circular and oval-shaped depressions are so numerous that in places the rims almost touch one another, and one can sometimes count several hundred to the square mile. Through vents at the bottom of these sinks the surface water passes downward into caverns and underground streams, emptying into the above named rivers through arched ways near water level, and in places beneath the surface of the rivers.

The surface-rock of this plateau is the Subcarboniferous limestone, which is here several hundred feet thick, a massive, remarkably homogeneous rock, with no intervening strata of shale or sandstone—conditions most favorable for the formation of caverns; consequently this region contains more and larger caves, in a given area, than any other region in the world. In Edmonson County, where the celebrated Mammoth Cave is located, it is claimed that there are as many as five hundred known caverns.



ALFRED C. HARMSWORTH.

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ALFRED C. HARMSWORTH.

whether "the thing is alive" or not, and make a detour in order to be on the safe side.
Very few colored people are successful in catching large alligators. There seems to be a mutual distrust and antipathy on both sides. While the alligator is not always looking for a fight, but desires to be alone, he will fight a "darky" on sight. As soon as he spies a negro he will dive and rise at about the proper place and land him, or rather sweep him in, if within reaching distance. Not so in the case of white hunters. The alligator will swim away, unless its young is attacked, and then it will crawl out on shore and use its huge tail as a battering ram. One stroke will knock a man senseless.
The scarcity of the alligator crop is now a live issue, and as this is one of Florida's attractions it is urged that something be done to stop this wholesale slaughter. It is possible that the next Legislature will come to the rescue of the friendless alligators.

NOTED BRITISH JOURNALIST.
A. C. Harmsworth's Great Newspaper Work in Stolid Old London.
In all the history of journalism there has probably never been a man who has acquired such immense power over English newspaper development as has come into the hands of Alfred C. Harmsworth, the proprietor of the London Daily Mail and of thirty other papers and magazines. Certainly there has never been a man from whose every action such strikingly successful results have flowed, and upon whom all eyes have centered as they center upon him. The Daily Mail, a half-penny paper which he started about three years ago along lines novel at least for England, and which he has so managed as to bring it to a daily circulation of 400,000 copies in that short space of time, has shaken the long-established customs of London newspaper editing to their very foundations. Other men have built up immense and profitable journals, which, whether of temporary or of permanent character, have kept about from the established senders of

UNDERGROUND STREAMS.

Thousands of miles of subterranean rivers in Kentucky.

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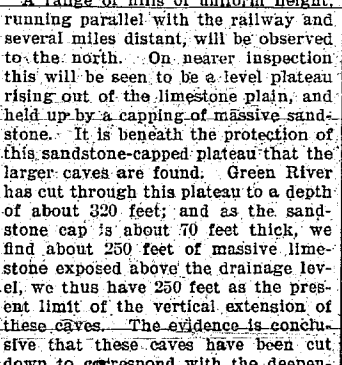
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POISONED ARROWS.

How Indians Make Use of the Deadly Venom of the Rattlesnake.

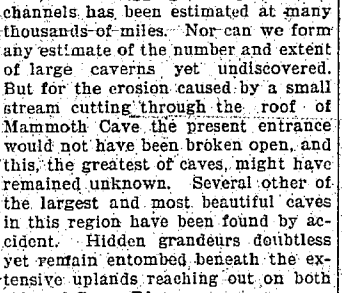
A venerable Indian arrow-maker explained how his arrows were poisoned in the following words:
"First we take a bloated yellow rattlesnake in August, when he is most poisonous, and the him, a forked stick to a stake; then we tease him until he is in a great rage. This is done by passing a switch over his body from his head to his tail. When he thrashes the ground with his tail and his eyes glow bright and sparkle like diamonds, we kill a deer, antelope or some other small animal, and tearing out the liver, throw it to the snake while it is warm and the blood still coursing through it. The reptile will strike it again and again, and pretty soon it will begin to turn black. When he lives, the snake is teased again, and he is induced to sink his fangs into the soft flesh until all the poison has been extracted from him and the liver is reeking with it. He is then killed and the liver lifted with a sharp pole, for so dangerous is it no one dares touch it. The liver is let lie for about an hour, when it will be almost jet black and emit a sour smell. Arrows are then brought and their iron heads pushed into the liver up to the shaft. They are left sticking there for about one hour and a half,

when they are withdrawn and dried in the sun. A thin, glistening yellow scum adheres to the arrow, and if it be so much as touches raw flesh it is certain to poison it to death."



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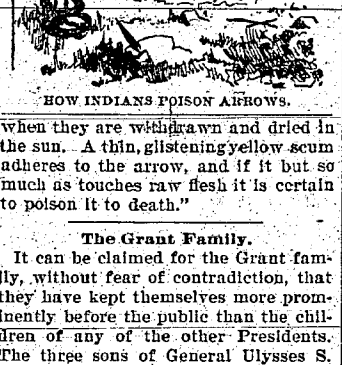
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FLASHES OF FUN.

Harvey—George said he kissed you. Did he?—Flora—(ambiguously)—Not much—Bazarr.

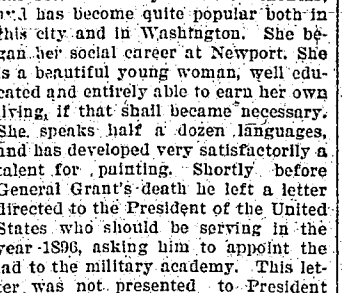
Woman Lawyer—How old are you? Woman Witness—I think I must be about your age.
She—I've seen twenty-two summers, He—(the brute)—Since when?—San Francisco Examiner.
He—My friend is opposed to everything English. She—Yes, I noticed that in his conversation.—Yonkers Statesman.
No Deception.—He—The young lady doesn't look like a singer. She—Doesn't look like one, either.—Detroit Free Press.
"I suspect there has been some crooked work going on here," he said. And he was right. His wife had been driving nails.—Fuch.
Parker—How do you like your rooms in your new flat. Freshleigh—Oh, they're a good fit. A little tight across the shoulders, perhaps.—Life.
"And your wife aimed at it and struck your head with a cup?" "Yes, sir." "Well, then, all I have to say is that you should be very proud of her."

"I daresay some of the comforts of civilization are already appearing in the Klondike?" "Yes; they were just getting nigger-in-the-slot machines as I came away."—Puck.
Neighbor—Does your father rent that house you live in? Boy—No, indeed. It's his own house, every bit of it. It's been bought and paid for and insured and mortgaged and everything.
Henry Yellowby—Aftah we's married, we'll hab chicken for dinah every day, honey. Melinda Johnson—Oh, yo' deary! But I wouldn't ask yo' to run sich risks for mah sake.—Puck.
"It is true," she said, "that our club has disbanded." "What was the trouble?" he asked. "Why, the president tried to enforce a rule to the effect that only one member could talk at a time."—Chicago Post.



ALFRED C. HARMSWORTH.

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ALFRED C. HARMSWORTH.

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Very few colored people are successful in catching large alligators. There seems to be a mutual distrust and antipathy on both sides. While the alligator is not always looking for a fight, but desires to be alone, he will fight a "darky" on sight. As soon as he spies a negro he will dive and rise at about the proper place and land him, or rather sweep him in, if within reaching distance. Not so in the case of white hunters. The alligator will swim away, unless its young is attacked, and then it will crawl out on shore and use its huge tail as a battering ram. One stroke will knock a man senseless.
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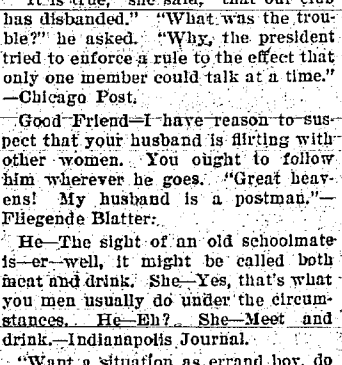
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A. C. Harmsworth's Great Newspaper Work in Stolid Old London.
In all the history of journalism there has probably never been a man who has acquired such immense power over English newspaper development as has come into the hands of Alfred C. Harmsworth, the proprietor of the London Daily Mail and of thirty other papers and magazines. Certainly there has never been a man from whose every action such strikingly successful results have flowed, and upon whom all eyes have centered as they center upon him. The Daily Mail, a half-penny paper which he started about three years ago along lines novel at least for England, and which he has so managed as to bring it to a daily circulation of 400,000 copies in that short space of time, has shaken the long-established customs of London newspaper editing to their very foundations. Other men have built up immense and profitable journals, which, whether of temporary or of permanent character, have kept about from the established senders of

THE GRANT FAMILY.

It can be claimed for the Grant family, without fear of contradiction, that they have kept themselves more prominently before the public than the children of any of the other Presidents.

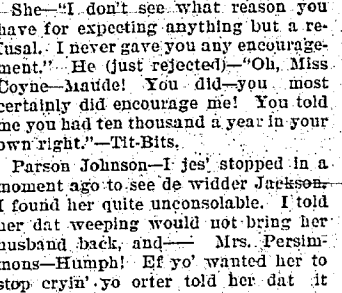
The three sons of General Ulysses S. Grant are now in the prime of life. First in the family stands Col. Frederick D. Grant. He is a West Point graduate and served some little time with his father at the front just before the close of the war. He was prominent during his father's occupancy of the White House, and he has been more or less in the public eye ever since, having held some sort of an office almost uninterruptedly since his father's retirement.

The home life of the Grant family is thoroughly American. Col. Grant married a sister of Mrs. Potter Palmer, of Chicago, a Miss Honore, and she has made a typical American home in the heart of the metropolis. They have two children, a boy and a girl, Julia Dent Grant, the eldest of the two, is now a little over 20 years of age. She has been in society for a few months, and has become quite popular both in this city and in Washington. She began her social career at Newport. She is a beautiful young woman, well educated and entirely able to earn her own living, if that shall become necessary. She speaks half a dozen languages, and has developed very satisfactorily a talent for painting. Shortly before General Grant's death he left a letter directed to the President of the United States who should be serving in the year 1899, asking him to appoint the lad to the military academy. This letter was not presented to President Cleveland because of the necessity for more preliminary study, but it has been turned over to President McKinley, and when the term at West Point begins Ulysses S. Grant II., will be entered as the personal appointee of President McKinley. Young Grant is an enthusiast on military matters. He has inherited his grandfather's taste for a soldier's life, and is looking forward to a great career in the army.—Chautauquan.



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OVERCOME EVIL WITH GOOD.

With burning brain and heart of hate,
I sought my wronger, early, late,
And all the wretched night and day
My dream and thought was slay, and slay.

My better self rose uppermost,
The beast within my bosom lost
Itself in love; peace from afar
Shone o'er me radiant like a star.

I slew my wronger with a deed,
A deed of love; I made him bleed
With kindness, I filled for years
His soul with tenderness and tears.

—Robert Loveman in the Independent

EL PADRE TRISTE.

BY WALTER MATSON.

Diego sat on the south side of the ancient adobe church of San Pedro. It was the time of day when the good fathers, whose lives had been passed at the now forgotten mission, were taking their customary siesta. It was Diego's time to be idle. He looked southward, over the almond trees just bursting into blossom, over the stubby vines, that the half-naked descendants of a once lordly race were training for the winter's vintage, over the garden patch and network of irrigating ditches, over the great tawny desert of death, toward the land of his birth. The wind, a very mild breeze for February, whistled around the corner of the building. It came fresh from the Raton Mountains. It chilled him. He drew closer to his shelter. It chilled his heart also, and as he looked over the orchard decked with fragrant promise, he muttered the old proverb: "Presto maduro, presto podrido (soon ripe, soon rotten)." Evidently his mind was projected beyond the range of human vision.

With the involuntary expression came the thought of a name that he had not heard uttered for years—his own name, Diego. None of those with whom he had lived these three spring-times knew it; none save old Padre Sebastiano, his confessor, in whose breast a secret was as safe as in the grave. He also remembered that the name had been given him in honor of his patron saint, and that he was the descendant of a "conquistador." Degenerate as he was, he enjoyed recalling this fact.

"El corazon manda las carnes" (The heart bears up the body), but I can't endure this forever. I must speak to the fathers to-night and take the vows."

Three years before, in this same month when the earth springs into life beneath the warmth of the returning sun, a wanderer drew rein at the gate of the Mission San Pedro. His face was haggard, his body weak after the long desert ride. His horse was in as lamentable a condition as his master. The stranger was young. He seemed almost most boyish, even in the country where youth is but a sunrise glow between the child and the man. As he dismounted he staggered, reached toward the portal for support and fell in a swoon. It was not the first time that such an occurrence had happened at the lonely mission on the edge of the desert. The good fathers knew what to do in such cases, and they were no more faithful in their efforts because his serape, discolored as it was, indicated the Hidalgo, than they would have been had the object of their solicitation been the humblest Indian in New Mexico.

When Diego came to himself weeks had passed. He strove to tell his story, but as often as he did so, Padre Sebastiano hid him by quiet and wait until his strength returned. So it chanced that on a summer's day, as he sat sated in the courtyard listening to the trickling of the water, he felt a hand laid on his shoulder, and Padre Sebastiano, bending over him, said:

"Tell me, my son, what troubles you. You have never confessed, nor taken the blessed sacrament."

"Not here, father, not here, come into the chapel and I will tell you all; but when you hear my story you will turn me out like an intruder."

"Nay; say not so! The heart of the Mother is always compassionate and often, while you sleep, my prayers have gone up for you to the holy San Pedro in whose glorious memory this humble mission was founded; but come."

The old man led the way to the little chapel, frescoed by loving hands that had long since entered into eternal rest, whose altar was adorned with spoils of conquest and with relics from far-distant Spain, and thence into the confessional where none might hear what passed between saint and sinner. Diego instinctively fell upon his knees and a shudder went through his well-knit frame as he thus began:

"Father, pray for me. My sin is greater than I can bear. I cannot confess it, even here."

"Proceed, my son. You have sinned. I trust you have repented. It cannot be that one so young, so fair as you, has sinned unto death."

"I have, I have."

"Tell me, and I will judge." Thus encouraged the penitent continued:

"My name is Diego Dominguez y Agramonte. My home is, or rather was, in the Boulon de Mapimi, beside Laguna del Parres. You know the place, father—the fairest upon earth, where it is always spring, where the birds sing by night as well as by day, and where the air is always fragrant with the perfume of orange blossoms and of more distant mountain flowers. There I lived on my father's hacienda, and never once had serious thought of love or trouble. Thus time passed until I was nineteen years of age, when strange stories came to us of the wonderful railroad that was coming from the Rio Grande del Norte, and was already near the city of Chihuahua. I had read much of the 'machina de vapor,' but I wanted to see it for myself, and the peones who went away to work and came back jingling pesos, when before they had never seen anything greater than an mule, only whetted my desire to travel."

"Ah, my son," said the old man, interrupting, "the love of money is the root of all evil." Nudi intravimus, nudi eximus."

"But, padre, it was not money that I was after. I wanted to see the world. So just before I left de noche buena, I started for Chihuahua. My mother blessed me with tears, and my father, who knew my temper and inexperience, urged me to hasten back and take charge of the hacienda. Chihuahua was the largest city I had ever been in, and I wandered about the plaza for a day or two quite lost in the crowd. The Americans were everywhere, and seemed to have plenty of money, and to own everything, and when I thought how our beautiful Mexico had belonged to old Castile before an Englishman had set foot on the soil I hated the upstarts. I soon found friends who felt the same way that I did, and we picked quarrels with the gringos until the police interfered."

"One night, after I had been there about a week, we went to a fandango. There I met my fate. I took my seat beside the most beautiful senorita that I have ever seen. She was not dark like our Coahuila belles, but her head glowed like the ripening wheat on the uplands, and her eyes were a deep, dreamy blue, and her form—well, I lost my heart. She threw back the mantilla that covered her head and smiled at me. This gave me courage, and I asked her to dance. I can never forget the touch of her hand. It gave me a thrill that I had never before experienced. I felt it often during the next two weeks, but I have never known it since. The next dance she gave to one of my friends, and as they passed me, she dropped a rose at my feet. Before the night was over I knew all about her. Her name was Maria Sepuveda, and she was an heiress. Of course, she had been much sought after, but as yet had shown no decided preference for any one. This was my chance. I was as constant as her shadow. If she was at a fandango, I was there also, and when there was no fandango, I would take my mandolin and stand beneath her window. In less than a week I had told her all about the beautiful Boulon de Mapimi, and for you know we do things quickly in our country, I told her that I loved her, and she promised to marry me."

Diego paused. His passionate voice was choked with sobs. Padre Sebastiano stroked the bowed head, but did not speak. In a moment the young man resumed:

"Such happiness could not last forever. It was too great. One night, and we were to return home the next day, we were at a fandango. A party of Americans came in. One of them was a great man. He spent gold where I spent silver. He used to drink a great deal and to gamble a great deal more. The senoritas liked him too well; but I hated him. He would show his gold and diamonds, and was reported to be a powerful Hidalgo in his own land. Well, Maria and I had enjoyed one dance, and then this American asked her to dance with him. I did not think she would do it, but you know, 'No ay cerradura si se de oro la gananza' (there is no lock if the key be golden). So they went on the floor together. I saw him whisper sweet words in her ear, just as I had done, and fattle the coils within my breast. I wanted the next dance, but Maria paid no attention to me. She danced again with the gringo. When they came near me I scowled. He saw me and laughed a sneering laugh and said something in English. I did not understand the language, but I did know the word 'greaser.' Maria understood him. She turned toward me and laughed also. I could stand it no longer. I went outside into the cool air. It did not cool me. I heard the sound of music. I had no charms for now and again, as I looked in, I saw Maria still dancing with my enemy. For hours I waited. At length the Americans came out and walked toward their hotel. There were three of them. I followed like a cat. I could have followed that man to the end of the earth. By and by he stopped behind his friends to light a cigar. This was what I wanted. In an instant my knife was between his ribs. He fell with a groan. His friends ran back, and while they stopped to raise him I escaped in the darkness. I knew Chihuahua as well as they. I hunted up my friend Ramon, and told him all about it."

"Diego," said he, "they know you, and you have killed a great Hidalgo. You must get out of the city to-night, right away. You cannot go home, because the police will look for you there, and the United States will never let the matter rest."

man of Mexico that he was. The fathers had done all this to try him. They realized his worth, and soon promoted him to be superintendent of the business details of the little community. They gave him an unoccupied cell for his own use; but as often as they urged him to take the irrevocable vow, he would declare that as yet he was not worthy. He even asserted, as far as possible, the habit of his superiors, and was foremost in deeds of charity and self-denial. The Indians regarded him as a lay brother; but he never smiled nor mingled in their amusements as did the others. So, not knowing his name, he passed to and fro among them as "El Padre Triste."

All this came to him as he basked in the sunlight. A shadow lay athwart him. Looking up he saw Padre Sebastiano. The laborers were at their toll. The air was full of fragrance of freshly turned earth and of bursting buds. Henceforth this world was his world. The past was buried. No more for him would the orange flowers bloom in the far-away Boulon de Mapimi; no more would he dream of the golden-haired senorita of Chihuahua. He, too, would be a father, and these patient, dusky sons of the soil would be his children—his care.

"Padre," said he, arising, "I am resolved. If you are willing, I will take the vow."

"The saints be praised! Diego, you are no longer my son; but my brother," and with streaming eyes the priest hurried away to break the joyful news.

That night Diego lay down on his pallet with a feeling of blissful security such as he had never known before. Scarcely had he fallen asleep when he was aroused by a rude shake.

"Get up, Diego! A wagon has been overturned in the canon on the road to Santa Fe. A messenger has just come from there. One man is badly hurt, and there is a woman in the party. The place is about fifteen miles from here, but you can ride fast, and know what to do. Take a bottle of brandy with you, and whatever else you may need from the medicine chest. God speed you!"

With all his spiritual fervor the young man could not forget that he had once been an caballero. His horse, the same that he had ridden to San Pedro, had grown fat and lazy in the corral, and El Padre Triste felt a savage gleam as he dug in the spurs and galloped away over the untracked sand in the chill of the night. In half an hour the way became rocky. The mountains, at first a distant black band, now arose to the stars, an insurmountable barrier, save where the little stream that gave life to the mission had furrowed its way through perpendicular walls a thousand feet in height. The horse went warily. The darkness could almost be felt, and one false step might mean death. Diego did not think of this. He was wondering, whence these travelers came. Were they from Mexico, making a pilgrimage to the City of the Holy Faith? If so, could they by any chance recognize him? After all these years was he doomed to meet his just deserts?

He had plenty of time to ponder these things before the flickering light of a midnight campfire disclosed his journey's end. Voices reached him. The speech was his mother tongue. On the ground near the fire lay a man moaning; his comrades doing all in their power to alleviate his suffering. Near by, wrapped in blankets, was a sleeping form. Diego tied his horse and advanced toward the group. He did not see a familiar face. The watchers rose to meet him.

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He poured some liquor down the throat of the writhing wretch, bound up the wounds and set, as best he could, the broken limb. All this took time, and as the fire burned more brightly and the noise of the conversation grew louder, the form in the blankets moved uneasily. Then the blankets were thrown back and a woman approached. Diego's back was toward her. He saw nothing but duty.

"Diego!"

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"Senora Maria, how do you come here?"

"For you, Diego! I stood it as long as I could, and then—then Ramon said he thought you had gone to Santa Fe, and I ran away to find you."

"But, Senora Americano! If he had been alive you would never have thought of me," Diego said bitterly.

"Diego," the old smile crept around the lovely mouth. "Diego, Senora Americano did not die. His wife came down to nurse him two weeks after you ran away. He is alive yet for aught I know. He just got a good lesson, and I—I wanted a little fun, you see. Won't you forgive me?"

"Marquita!"

The next morning as Padre Sebastiano was looking toward the northwest he saw a cloud of dust approaching. It came nearer—a horse, and it carried two. Nearer yet. It was Diego. He was smiling, and behind him, to true knight errant fashion, rode a woman. The father, beside himself with amazement, ran out to meet them, and he never quite recovered from the salutation which he received:

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Queer System of Enumeration.

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FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Stone or Cement Floors for Dairies—One Way to Make a Rose Bed—Cows Thin in Flesh—Etc., Etc.

STONE OR CEMENT FLOORS FOR DAIRIES.

There is no floor for a dairy so good as flagstone and cement between the joints. It will not absorb milk or cream as board or brick will do, is easily cleaned and is always easily kept cool in summer. The cost of a cement floor is not much if any greater than that from other material that will not give half so good satisfaction. The dairy floor should be even with the surface of the soil, or but very slightly above it.

ONE WAY TO MAKE A ROSE BED.

Stake out your rose bed, size desired, if covered with sod, dig up and put to one side along with the surface soil. Now, take out subsoil and stones if any, to a depth of at least 20 inches. Throw back the sod in bottom and mix plenty of well-rotted manure with the surface soil. Don't be afraid of getting too much manure, roses are gross feeders, you can hardly give them too much. Manure from a spent hot bed is all right. A little ground bone worked through will help. Floral World.

OVERSTOCKED WITH HENS.

Almost all farmers at this season are overstocked with hens. The size of the flock to be kept should never exceed 30 to 35 in a hen house 12x14 feet, while many farmers think should accommodate twice that number. There is much more liability to both disease and vermin in closely filled hen houses, and there is, besides, no room enough for them to get the exercise they absolutely require to keep them in good condition. If the farmer wishes to keep a greater number of fowls, he should build more hen houses each with a yard attached, so as to give opportunity for exercise, and for supplying the fowls a convenient place to roll themselves in to clean off the vermin.—Boston Cultivator.

A NEGLECTED ORNAMENTAL CLIMBER.

The ornamental climber introduced in 1893 by a Philadelphia florist and seedman is not as well known as deserves to be, by reason of its thrift and beauty. It is Centrosoma grandiflora, a hardy perennial, but readily started from seeds sown in April. Growth is rapid and a plant 60 inches almost as soon as a pea vine. The flowers are inversely pea-shaped and quite large, many being from two to two and a half inches in diameter. The color runs through the shades from rosy violet to reddish purple. Through the center of each flower runs a broad feathered band of white, and the large buds and the outside surface of the flowers being also white at a little distance a plant appears to bear blossoms of several colors. Occasionally we find a plant with pure white flowers. The blossoms are produced in clusters, and the foliage is sweetly fragrant. It continues to blossom until quite late in the season. It might be well to remember the centrosoma next spring.

POLLINATING GREENHOUSE TOMATOES.

Tomatoes growing in a forcing house must be hand pollinated in order to secure a crop, since there is no wind in the house to carry the pollen as in the case in the open field.

The operation is most successfully performed on a bright day and when the plants are dry. The only implement needed is a small watch glass securely fastened to a short wooden handle.

The operator holds the glass close under a blossom and gently taps the top of the bloom with his finger. This causes the pollen to fall upon the glass, which is then held under another flower. This is tapped in a similar manner, and at the same time that the pollen is being shaken off the pistil is dipped into the pollen already in the glass and some of it adheres to the stigma and causes fertilization of the ovules.

The operator proceeds quickly from one flower to another, tapping each one on the same way.—John W. Lloyd, in Farm, Field and Fireside.

IMPROVING THE PERSIMMON.

The wild native persimmon varies so greatly in quality that there are many who believe that this is a fruit which by cultivation and selection may be brought to a high degree of excellence. It is mostly a native of the South, though it is hardy enough to endure Northern winters, and occasionally trees are found in the Northern states, where they have been probably grown from seeds brought by migratory birds. The kinds that in the wild state are green in color never attain the highest excellence. Some wild persimmons have been found which turn yellow before they are exposed to frost, and these are much sweeter and richer after freezing than the others. All persimmons have to be frozen to reach their best condition. Those that turn yellow before freezing will probably produce seed that if planted and given proper cultivation will be worthy of propagation. But the fruit can never be kept long after it reaches its best condition. For this reason it will probably never be sold very largely except in the neighborhood where it was grown.—American Cultivator.

HINTS TO POULTRY RAISERS.

I believe one of the most prolific causes of failure in poultry raising is from inbreeding. This may not be the cause of all failures, but it certainly is of very many. The young fowls will be weak and die off from time to time; some of them may live for a while and many of them will succumb to their lack of vitality in a few days. Quite often the eggs will not hatch where the fowls have been inbred. We find it best to exchange male birds every year instead of keeping the same stock right along as many do. Some will buy pure bred males and then, feeling quite safe, and being sure they have better stock perhaps than their

neighbors' have, they do not wish to make exchanges, as is common in country places, so they keep their pure bred fowls and as these cost quite a good bit the males are not changed for others as often as need be, and the result is disastrous in more ways than one. Even if the eggs do hatch, and the young fowls live they will not make as good layers as those not inbred.

If your poultry has run down, the stock is poor and you wish to add a new and vigorous strain of blood this may be done by getting a strong, well-bred male. Then keep the hens in a low ration for a day or so, some keep them entirely from food, and then allow the male to mate them. The result is that the young will take on the qualities of the male bird, and the greater portion of the chicks hatched will look almost like pure-bred fowls. In this way a fine caution he brought up to an excellent standard.—R. S. M. in New York Tribune.

HOG NOTES.

Clean bedding is essential to good health. Oil meal, with bran and skimmed milk, makes a good feed.

The quality of the pork may be improved by clean feeding.

Keep a supply of salt and wood ashes where the hogs can help themselves.

A young boar should not be permitted to service until he is at least six months old.

Giving a little turpentine in the slop occasionally is a good preventive of worms in hogs.

To get the best results from an early maturity breed, liberal feeding is very necessary.

The most serious objection to very large sows is their liability to lie upon and smother their pigs.

Even in summer it is not an economical plan to feed upon the ground; have a good, tight, feeding floor.

CANADIAN SYSTEM OF FATTENING PIGS.

Charles W. Lemmon, one of America's hog buyers, has just returned from a ten days' trip to Canada, where he went on business for his firm. His mission was to look into the system of fattening hogs in that country. He put in his time in the western part of Ontario, where he was royally treated by everybody he came in contact with, especially the farmers, live stock dealers and packers. He says Canadian hogs are fed on ground peas, barley, rye and shorts, and they are generally marketed when they weigh 160 to 200 pounds. In fact buyers discriminate against all weights over 220 pounds, and 240 and 250 pound averages sell from 20 to 50 cents below the 160 to 200 pound bacon grades. Their hogs are mostly all on the singeing order, being long and thin. Packers there, he says, discriminate against short, chunky hogs, such as the Chicago packers and shippers seem to want. The Canadian packers buy most of their hogs in this country, having their buyers out all the time.—Chicago Drovers' Journal.

COWS THIN IN FLESH.

It is the practice of many farmers to give the breeding cow no grain or other rich food after the milk dries up. This is usually caused by the increasing demands of the foetus, which takes all that the cow can supply. On a diet of corn stalks, with possibly a little hay, the cow will live until spring when she is due to farrow, but she will become very thin in flesh, the cow gradually growing poorer in order to sustain the increasing demands of the foetus. This is a great injury to the cow. It is not necessary or best that she should be fattened, but at least enough nutritious food should be given to maintain what flesh she had when she was dried off. With cows that give very much or very rich milk, excessive feeding may cause some difficulties as the time for parturition approaches. But until this time is nearly past of nutritious food may be given with safety and to the benefit of the whole season's milk product. With a really good cow most of the fat she has on her will go into the milk before the summer is over. A cow thin in flesh is pretty sure to give milk poorer in fats and less in quantity than she should.—Boston Cultivator.

QATS FOR COLTS.

Few farmers seem to realize that the first winter of a colt's life to a large extent determines its future usefulness and value. With the majority of our acquaintances the one thing they aim at the first is to "toughen" the colt and in many cases he becomes so "tough" that he never makes a serviceable or profitable horse.

The process of toughening is very simple. The colt is left to shift for himself. He may wander over a field of bare corn stalks through the day and get himself at night in the snow and a wire fence so unfortunate as to find a straw pile so unoccupied by the cattle and hogs. He has neither victuals nor drink offered him.—he simply toughens it.

The colt would make a much tougher horse in the good sense if given proper food. And taken all in all, there is no food that is so generally raised that is so well adapted for the colt for all horse-kind—as oats.

Speaking of oats as the food for horses and of their especial value as food for the colt the Southern Stock Farmer says: "The oat is a natural food for horses at any age. It has just the kind of nutrition to make the muscle and bone, and conjoined with exercise, these are the basis of strength."

It is especially important that the colt should begin to develop muscle at an early age. If he is allowed free room in which to run, the colt fed a few oats daily will do all else that is needed. He will even groom himself by rolling on the ground or in the snow when snow is on the ground.

Besides, a pint of oats twice a day, making up about a quart a day, will keep the colt growing, when with only hay he will have a rough, staring coat and grow very little the first winter.

What is worse, the colt thus underfed is likely to have its digestion injured. The bulk of the oat prevents it from ingesting the hay, and thus the colt is kept long after it reaches its best condition. For this reason it will probably never be sold very largely except in the neighborhood where it was grown.—American Cultivator.

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